

HUNDRED AND FIFTEENTH
ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT OF
THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY
1990



Published by
THE INTERNATIONAL SECRETARY
THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY, ADYAR
MADRAS 600 020, INDIA

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Presidential Address

To the 115th Annual Convention of the Theosophical Society
Varanasi, 26 December 1990

I extend a most cordial welcome to all the delegates assembled here for the 115th International Convention and the Centenary of the Indian Section, at whose invitation the Convention is again being held at the headquarters of the Indian Section, in the ancient city of Varanasi. Before we begin to conduct our proceedings, let us open our hearts towards those Blessed Ones for whose service the Theosophical Society exists.

May Those who are the embodiments of Love immortal bless with Their help and guidance this Society founded to be a channel for Their work. May They inspire it with Their wisdom, strengthen it with Their power and energize it with Their activity.

Momentous changes have taken place in the relationship of the nations of the world during the past year. The hostility between the two great military powers of the East and West has thawed. Their rivalry and struggle for global domination are at a more subdued level. Disarmament negotiations have resulted in an unexpectedly large reduction of weaponry on either side. Western Europe, for long regarded as the main theatre of war, may now hope not to be the stage on which a deadly spectacle will be enacted.

The breath of freedom is passing through all of eastern Europe, stifled for decades in the suffocating ideology of the totalitarian regimes which controlled the people of this vast area. At last they have found the opportunity to regain their intellectual integrity and follow their spiritual aspirations. A real hunger for

new ways of thinking and a more satisfying philosophy is evident, as the process of democratization widens the area of independence of these oppressed populations.

Equally significant were the happenings in Africa, offering visions of hope to millions of black people. The South African government now recognizes the impossibility of maintaining the system of apartheid. It has officially abandoned its previous methods of dealing with weak neighbours. After decades of struggle, Namibia and Angola have become independent and the foreign forces stationed in Angola have departed. These events could see the beginning of a new era of racial harmony in Africa if wisdom prevails. But selfishness and separativeness are rampant on this continent as elsewhere. Changing some well-known words slightly we may say

that the white dove of peace has yet no room to rest her weary feet. Out of the embers of *détente* and the new liberalism the spectre of war has re-emerged in the Middle East, threatening to drive hopes of peace far from this unhappy earth.

We live in an age of transition with contrary currents pulling strongly in opposite directions. On the one hand, thoughtful people are exploring ways to bring about global and continental co-operation and union, while on the other violent tendencies work to break up efforts at unity. Germany, splintered into two for several decades, like several other countries, has been united. Only a short time ago this change seemed impossible and neighbours feared the prospect of German reunification. Yet it has happened. The countries of Western Europe are moving closer together in preparation for an economic union which might lay the foundation of a future political federation. Such a federation could even include the countries of eastern Europe later on.

As against this brighter trend in the direction of greater co-operation, we see ethnic loyalties and longstanding racial animosities driving groups which are not even economically viable on their own to separatism. The urge to secession exists everywhere—in India, Sri Lanka, Canada and elsewhere. Centripetal and centrifugal forces are pulling at the mind of a bewildered humanity.

Another curious phenomenon we notice is the confusion of people who are becoming independent. While they were controlled they did not have to think and choose. Being liberated they are at a loss. They know what they wish to reject, but it is not so easy to be clear about which

way to follow to ensure a happy future. Many conflicting views are being aired about the best course to take for economic, political and social restructuring, and also to find the right philosophical and religious perspectives.

Once more circumstances show that the world cannot become happier, more stable or peaceful merely by arranging and organizing outer circumstances. Lasting peace does not come through patching up. Treaties of friendship are broken as easily as they are made. Loyalties shift and politically engineered friendships are ephemeral. History proves that the methods so far adopted to bring peace are totally ineffective and nothing more has ever been achieved than temporary truces or a realignment of mutually suspicious groups. People refuse to realize that no amount of restructuring at the external level can bring about a different world. There is an obdurate unwillingness to see that in the present state of technology it is suicidal to be disunited. Humanity in general has refused to confront the fact that conditions of war or peace arise in the mind, and therefore serious attention must be given to what happens within oneself. Otherwise, we are only playing with effects, leaving the source of our ills untouched.

In this unfortunate motherland of sages and spiritual teachers, India, a tragedy is being enacted. In the name of religion, communal riots and insane murder of innocent people are taking place. Hatred is being fanned to suit the interests of a few power-hungry men.

Religion stands for the sanctity of all life. Murder and violence are most irreligious acts. Labelling barbarism of the

worst kind with the name of religion, is a form of heresy. It is a denial of the truth of religion and a sin against God.

It is the duty of all righteous men and women, of all people of good will, especially Theosophists, to uphold the sanctity of all places where that Nameless Power which gives life to all is venerated. The awakening of respect for all religions in the hearts of people is the real foundation stone for erecting a temple of the spirit, consecrated to the One Divine Power, be he called Rama, Siva or Allah. For as the Upanishads have asserted, truth is one though men give it different names.

What can give direction to the confusion of humanity, not only with regard to one particular aspect of life—politics, economics, religion or whatever—but a total view which will put everything in its right place? Such a holistic point of view, which comprehends man's needs at all levels and recognizes the spiritual dimension in him as the most important, is Theosophy in the deep sense of the term. This is the only sure basis for establishing peace in the world, harmony among all people and a way of life which will not be degraded by the temptation of short-sighted, opportunistic activities.

Because of the urgent need for a fundamental change in man and society, two seminars on this theme were organized by the European Federation and the International Theosophical Centre at Naarden in July this year. A large number of General Secretaries, officers and workers participated, including some who came from the US, Mexico, Uruguay, Australia, India and Israel. In an atmosphere of serious

enquiry, and concern for the human predicament, discussions took place following a talk given by the International President every morning on the work of the Theosophical Society in relation to regeneration. Preparatory material in the form of a booklet was circulated to the participants in advance and the entire programme was recorded on video and audio cassettes to serve as a basis for follow-up programmes in Sections and lodges.

The present-day world faces enormous problems—proliferation of arms, environmental hazards, population growth and so on. The existence of these external threats to civilization is being recognized more and more. There is also some realization of the urgent need to meet the challenges satisfactorily. But very few see that the external challenges are only a reflection of the internal condition of the human being. None of mankind's grave problems can be resolved piecemeal in our present-day world where all the nations and peoples are interlocked together by the advance of technology.

Man believes that society is different from himself, but if he does not observe and understand himself and bring about a change within, he will never be able to build a good society.

Theosophists must work to remove all divisive ideologies and forms of bigotry. People must be guided to assume full responsibility for their actions and thoughts, for otherwise they may do irreparable damage to the well-being of future generations, and of the very earth. Universal brotherhood without distinctions is a radical change from the state of mind deluded by a sense of

difference and division to one in which there is no division but an overflowing understanding and compassion, which spring from the experience of unity. The Theosophical Society must point to the profound religious quality of a mind which is free of differentiation. It must employ all the philosophical perspectives necessary to create a spirit of altruism and universality, and help people to have faith in unselfish living, and realize that it is the most potent means to felicity.

The three objects of the Theosophical Society are all means to regeneration. The second object does not call on members to make an academic study of religions, philosophies and science which is impossible for the average person. It goads us to seek truth by any one or all these means and realize how sacred, marvellous and indivisible life is. Even a little glimpse of its real nature has a dynamic and beneficent effect on the consciousness and behaviour of those who see.

The third object of the Society refers to the way which all must follow. Progress can never be achieved at the outer level of science or the inner religious level without understanding and co-operating with the immutable laws of Nature. It is open to every human being to unfold the magnificent powers of consciousness that are within himself and march rapidly towards the divine destiny that awaits him. Progress on the path to perfection is not a matter of favour; there are no unmerited rewards. It is the right of all those who are wise enough to obey the timeless laws of Nature, particularly the law of harmony.

Our approach to Theosophy must lead to the flowering of the human consciousness into wisdom. Theosophy

must not be reduced into a system of knowledge which is merely at the intellectual level. Theosophical study must open the mind to the underlying purpose, beauty and significance of life and thereby bring about regeneration. The test of a person's theosophical understanding is his life, whether he is growing in harmony, kindness and wisdom.

These and other related topics were seriously meditated over and discussed in an atmosphere of friendship during the seminars in Holland. We hope that in other theosophical groups there will also be serious consideration of the basic work of the Society to bring about a fundamental change in the human mind. If the large majority of members recognize that this is the main work of the Society, a new dynamism would emerge.

Prior to the seminars in Naarden, I visited Moscow and Leningrad at the invitation of the association 'Peace through Culture' and the Soviet Writers Union. Some details of this visit have already appeared in *The Theosophist*. The highlights were a public programme in Moscow on H.P. Blavatsky and also an exhibition about her, both of which were arranged in the spacious premises of the Soviet Writers Union. There was an enthusiastic response to both these events and through television and other media of information a very large number of people throughout the Soviet Union came to know about the Theosophical Society and Madame Blavatsky who is now appreciated as a great Russian. There were also well-attended meetings in Leningrad, with an eager audience asking for answers to their many questions. During this stay in Russia, discussions with my hosts resulted in an

agreement that 1991 will be celebrated as International HPB Year. They propose to start 'Friends of HPB' groups in the USSR which may later on become lodges of the Theosophical Society. From Adyar, a gift of 5,000 copies of Helena Roerich's Russian translation of *The Secret Doctrine* will be sent for distribution in libraries and learned institutions and sale. There is also a proposal to put a plaque on the house where HPB was born in the Ukraine after obtaining permission from the authorities. As a consequence of my visit, the President of the association 'Peace through Culture', Mr V. Sidorov, a well-known writer, and the Secretary, Mr A. Veselitsky, came to Adyar with an interpreter. Further discussions about publication of theosophical books in Russian and collaborative work to resuscitate the Society in the USSR took place. These guests are also likely to participate in the International Convention at the end of next year as there will be special emphasis on that occasion on the life and work of HPB.

My visit to Europe from the middle of June to the last week of September included travel and lectures in more than a dozen Sections. It was particularly valuable to visit the areas where only a few visitors go, such as Iceland, Ireland and even Italy which is a large section. The personal contacts with the General Secretaries and workers, and discussions ranging over many topics, are essential to maintain strong links.

Theosophy came to India in 1879 along with the Founders. Earlier, they had been in correspondence with Mr Moolji Thackersey and some others who became members of the Society

even before 1879. The rapid spread of Theosophy in India and the founding of numerous lodges in the wake of their tours made India the most important area of theosophical activity during the early years of the Society. The Charters of several of the lodges in India antedate that of the Indian Section, which was officially constituted only on 17 November 1890.

This year the Indian Section is commemorating the centenary of its constitution. It has rightly decided not to waste resources on mere frivolities and to adopt measures to intensify the study of Theosophy and spread it more widely. Five attractive-looking folders, giving preliminary information on Theosophy and the Society, have been printed in large numbers and distributed through the Federations. Some of them are being translated into Indian languages, while several more introductory pamphlets are being prepared by the Section.

Through the columns of *The Indian Theosophist* the need for more serious study and the importance of living the theosophical life are being emphasized. A special issue of this monthly journal was dedicated to the message given by former President Sri Ram, one of the most eminent members of the Section. A volume containing the Besant Lectures delivered at the Section's annual conventions after her birth centenary in 1947 has been brought out. These lectures given by eminent persons in various walks of life set forth before the public the great ideals and philosophical teachings for which Indian culture has been greatly esteemed by the whole world.

During the present convention a series of lectures will be given in order to cast light on some of the crucial problems

affecting India's growth not only at the outer level but at the moral and religious levels. The first of these lectures will be given this evening by His Holiness the Dalai Lama, who will speak about the divine quality of compassion, pre-eminent in Buddhism, but also taught in other religions. There will also be talks during this Convention on India's need today in the fields of education, politics, religion and social reconstruction. These lectures will be given by people qualified to give a new direction and rescue the country from the morass into which it has fallen.

India's recovery of its true spiritual heritage is of great importance to the whole of the world. It was not without reason that the Founders chose to establish the international headquarters of the Society in India and worked in this country for many years. Following their initiative, a dynamic programme was undertaken by Dr Annie Besant for the renewal of India's culture and spiritual consciousness. In the context of the Indian Section's centenary, it would be of interest for members to undertake a deep study of those teachings which, according to these theosophical leaders casts on India the responsibility to speak to the whole world on spiritual matters with an authentic voice.

Apart from the preparations for the centenary, normal activities went on throughout the Section. National and regional lecturers continued their work, and a number of study camps were held in different places. The membership of the Section increased during the year, bringing the total to 10,328.

By contrast the condition of the Society in neighbouring Sri Lanka and Myanmar

(Burma) continues to be extremely precarious. The General Secretary of Sri Lanka, Mr Edmund P. Silva reports a slight improvement only in Colombo, where they managed to hold eleven meetings during the year with a small attendance of about twenty-three. The Sri Ram Lodge in Jaffna was completely cut off and so was Shanti Marga Lodge in Galle. There is no news at all from Myanmar where an oppressive military regime makes it impossible even for the legitimate activities of the population to proceed normally.

In Pakistan theosophical work is practically confined to Karachi where they have a membership of over 130. Widespread disturbances in Hyderabad (Sind) have brought the activities there to a standstill, although more than 70 members remain on the rolls of that lodge. A small lodge functions occasionally at Quetta.

Indonesia too reports a kind of inertness not because of political conditions or communal disturbances but because of lack of active workers. The annual congress took place in May 1990 at Semarang, having as its theme 'Love—The Basis of Universal Brotherhood'. Fourteen lodges sent their representatives.

In several of these countries the English language is becoming unfamiliar. There is a growing need for theosophical books in the local languages, but unfortunately there are not enough competent translators. Although the Non-English Publications Fund could offer aid in some cases, volunteers have not been found to prepare the translations to take advantage of the help available.

In Bangladesh there is only one lodge

in the town of Comilla. It was founded in 1889 and has a building of its own in a central locality, which was a gift from the ruler of the former Tripura State. The members meet regularly every week and discuss a variety of subjects. This lodge has been very regular in sending reports and keeping in touch with our headquarters.

In March 1990 Mr K. K. Tan of Singapore was appointed as Presidential Agent for Southeast Asia, replacing Mr S. Narayanan, who was Presidential Agent for Malaysia. It is hoped that with the support of other active members he will be able to spread Theosophy outside Singapore and Malaysia into neighbouring countries like Thailand. A bulletin is being brought out from Singapore for distribution throughout the region.

Attempts are being made by Vietnamese members living overseas to prepare the way to re-establish the Society in Vietnam as conditions in that country are now slightly more favourable than they used to be.

The West African Federation had eighteen lodges and more than 400 members early in the year. But there has since been a drop in membership largely due to economic problems. However, with more than 300 members still on its rolls, the region is qualified for being a Section and having representation on the General Council of the Society. Very recently an application has been received at Adyar requesting a Charter to constitute a West African Section, comprising the countries of Ghana, Nigeria and Liberia. In the future some other English-speaking lodges in adjacent countries may also be attached to this

Section. A field-work training programme has been drawn up to improve the efficiency of the workers and to increase their knowledge of Theosophy. Several members have made donations to a fund set up for this purpose. A decision has also been made to establish a limited liability company for running a theosophical bookshop. A weekend seminar was organized at the University of Science and Technology in Kumasi. Unfortunately, the prolonged civil war in Liberia has affected the functioning of Slater lodge in Monrovia.

In neighbouring French-speaking areas work has been going on with enthusiasm. Togo was the venue of an inter-African Conference of French-speaking members which was successfully conducted. A building has come up in the theosophical centre established earlier. The members expect it to be inaugurated by the International President. The first issue of a magazine *Le Sentier* (the path) was brought out.

In East Africa there is a decline in membership, mostly in Tanzania, although Zambia had a substantial increase of African members. The National Lecturer, Mr Reuben Thuku, continues to visit all the three countries regularly, giving lectures not only in the lodges but also in schools, universities and other institutions. The Kenya Government has been encouraging religious studies in schools and members of the Society have been approached to help in this work. The Section continues to import and sell a considerable number of theosophical books and successfully publicize their activities. A half-hour Forum on Theosophy was televised in January 1990.

The American Section had another active year of field work thanks to the generous support of the Annual Fund by members. Nearly 250 speeches were given by twenty lecturers providing a vital link between headquarters and local groups. More than 100 members attended one of eight regional training sessions. New study guides were prepared. Support was also given to both *The Quest* magazine, which now has a circulation of 20,000, and Eternal Quest Radio and TV series to strengthen public awareness of the Society.

The Department of Education sponsors public programmes on a wide variety of topics, with attendance of 30 to 100 and workshops held have drawn from 65 to 185 participants. Press coverage increased during the year. The Department of Information answered nearly 1,500 letters and distributed over 17,000 leaflets. There was some decline in sales at TPH. Membership also registered a decrease, and was 5,287 at the end of September 1990.

The General Secretary, Mrs Dorothy Abbenhouse says: 'The theosophical world-view and our basic propositions are not just beautiful concepts. It is our task to translate them into a dynamic force in our lives. Today, they still await the evolution in human consciousness that would activate their potency as agents of change. Action, powerful, transformative action, can come out of the collective realization of these ancient truths by our members.'

In Argentina 45,000 leaflets were distributed at a Book Fair where public lectures were also delivered and thousands visited the TS stall. A work team has been formed to prepare and sell

audio and video cassettes. The Section's journal *Cambios* has a new design and is sent not only to the members but to other Spanish-speaking Sections. Regular gatherings are being held in the beautiful theosophical colony at San Rafael where the third wing of the star-shaped building is being constructed. This centre has become an active meeting place. Both summer and winter schools with good attendances took place there.

Brazil has a programme of publications which includes Portuguese versions of many important theosophical books. The magazine of the Section is also a good means for diffusion of Theosophy. In January a summer school was held in Brasilia, the capital, with the International President as the chief guest. The main subject of study was *Light on the Path*. Every morning the President gave a talk on the teachings of the book followed by a discussion in groups. There was also a seminar in the Raja Centre in Sao Paulo. Total membership in this Section is 953.

Activities go on steadily in Cuba. In Havana meetings are held daily from Monday to Saturday and on Sunday there are two meetings in which several lodges participate. In other cities weekly meetings are held. Communication with this Section is still difficult, yet there is no reduction in the enthusiasm or devotion of the members. Their annual convention took place in an atmosphere of friendship and enthusiasm in January 1990. All the theosophical anniversaries were celebrated. The Section scrupulously sets aside fifteen percent of the dues received in an account for Adyar with the hope that some day the money can be remitted.

There are three Presidential Agencies

in South America: Bolivia, Peru and Venezuela. In all of them activities are taking place as usual. It is reported that many young people under the age of thirty attend the meetings in La Paz and the members have a good interchange with the Argentine Section. In Peru also there were public lectures and a course on Theosophy. They are preparing a nine-month course of Theosophy for new members and hope to start it in January 1991. They have moved into new quarters in downtown Lima donated by a member. In Venezuela despite certain difficulties caused by the previous General Secretary work is going on as usual. It is to be hoped that development will take place in these three countries and they will be able to become Sections in the not too distant future.

Mexico has once again shown an increase in membership which now stands at 380. There are twelve lodges and twenty study groups in the country. The national headquarters was transferred from Puebla to Mexico City. Mr Walter Ballesteros, a veteran member of the Colombian Section, lectured in Mexico and other places in Central America and gave much inspiration and guidance to the members. No report has been received from the Central American Section for the last several years.

The Puerto Rican Section continues to encourage theosophical activity in the Dominican Republic and up to now four study groups have been formed there in different locations. Otherwise normal activities are going on.

The General Secretary of the Spanish Section reports that their monthly journal *Sophia* carries in every issue important theosophical material including Watch-

Tower notes from *The Theosophist*. A Theosophical Publishing House has been founded and a small group of members are printing books with desktop publishing equipment. In August the International President directed a seminar on 'Some Teachings of the Mahātmās'. The Section faces some problems with regard to its properties, one of which is occupied by a dissident group. The other one in Alicante was appropriated during the time that the Society was banned and now efforts are being made to recover it through legal means which of course will be a heavy financial burden on the Section. If it is recovered they will be able to make it a theosophical centre.

The Portuguese Section organized the thirteenth Iberian Week in which many Spanish members also participated. The difficulties in publishing their monthly journal continue. The Belgian Section has shown a small increase in membership after many years of decline. They once again organized a seminar with videotapes of Krishnamurti at the International Theosophical Centre in Naarden. The lodges are studying Theosophy, the Yoga Sutras and other subjects.

The French Section has lost 72 members. Twenty lodges are active. The Section is corresponding with and helping enquirers in Romania because of the special contacts which have existed between it and France. *Le Lotus Bleu*, the French magazine started by HPB, celebrated its hundredth anniversary by bringing out a special issue.

The Swiss Section is continuing to be active. They organized the summer school of the French-speaking areas in the beautiful resort of Glion above lake Leman. Lecturers from different

countries were invited, including the Chairman of the European Federation, Mr Curt Berg, and the International President. It was a happy, worthwhile gathering which brought together Swiss, French, Belgian and Italian members, with a few from other countries.

The General Secretary of the Austrian Section frankly says, 'there is nothing to report'. Everything is going on as usual in this small section. There are other areas where also there may be nothing to report in the sense that nothing unusual has taken place. However, it is necessary for headquarters to be informed even of the normal activities which are taking place.

In the German Section the annual convention was held in July at St Martin with a hundred members present and the International President as a guest. The Section journal *Adyar* has appeared regularly, and publishing work is proceeding satisfactorily, starting with Shirley Nicholson's *Ancient Wisdom, Modern Insight*.

The Dutch General Secretary reports that they are developing a programme of co-operation between the Dutch Section and the International Theosophical Centre at Naarden. The Section helped actively in making a success of the two seminars on Human Regeneration held in July. This was followed by a one-day convention of the Section with the International President as the guest of honour. The publication programme and the work of the bookshop are going on very satisfactorily.

Six lodges are active in the Swedish Section, where, besides the summer school, there were two mini-schools, of which one was for study of *The Secret Doctrine*. The turnover in the bookshop

at Stockholm has increased.

A meeting of all the Finnish lodges and study groups took place at Kreivila in May 1990 to plan future activities of the Finnish Section. The summer school held in June attracted a large number of participants. The International President gave a series of lectures on that occasion. Public lectures are held every week in Helsinki. Rohit Mehta's *Seek Out the Way* and the Theosophical Research Centre publication *This Dynamic Universe* were translated into Finnish and brought out during the year.

The number of lodges in Italy is 45. Because of lapses the membership was reduced to 1,095. The 76th National Convention took place at Castrocara in May 1990 with the theme 'How to Promote Theosophical Thought and Awaken the Inner Life'. I visited Florence, Turin and Milan where there were good audiences in spite of it being the holiday season.

Yugoslavia had a slight increase in membership which now stands at 67. There are considerable problems arising out of the racial differences existing in the country. Miss Mary Anderson, Secretary of the European Federation, has been regularly visiting the lodges. For the first time after a decade, public lectures were held in Koper and Ljubljana in the Slovene Republic, when I visited the country. There was a very good response from the public. *The Voice of the Silence* and *At the Feet of the Master* were translated and published and the 1,000-copy edition was sold out in three months.

Several letters addressed to the General Secretary of Greece have been returned by the postal department. It has

been difficult to find out the reason. Problems arose in Greece because the Section decided to receive as a donation an apartment in Athens accepting conditions which were inconsistent with the Society's character. In Denmark also the problems have not ended, and the court case is continuing. At a certain stage the court took the view that the Danish Section is independent of the international society. We hope that on appeal the matter will be reconsidered.

Fortunately all is well in Ireland. I visited Dublin this year and found that regular meetings were taking place. The Presidential Representative, Mrs Win Woods, says in her report: 'From being an isolated and insular group of people we are becoming well aware of universal brotherhood in its true sense.' Miss Ianthe Hoskins gave a two-day seminar in Dublin and other visitors from abroad are expected. It is hoped that some groups will be formed outside Dublin and grow into lodges.

In Northern Ireland too work has been satisfactory. At their convention, some members from Dublin participated. Their programme of public activities relies entirely on the effort of their own members. This is greatly to the credit of the group, for even in large Sections members at times fail to prepare themselves to present good public lectures. It is reported that a beautiful atmosphere has developed in the new building to which the group moved.

The Presidential Representative in Scotland reports that her country was represented at the European School of Theosophy held in Spain, the Summer School in England and at the seminar in Holland. At Glasgow they concentrated

on members' meetings where they have study, discussion and meditation, while in Edinburgh there are varied activities. The report from Wales tells of normal work.

In Israel, the Covenant Lodge attached directly to Adyar, concentrated on organizing and publicizing three courses to be run regularly: an introductory course of Theosophy, an advanced course of Theosophy, and 'The Principles of Spiritual Astrology'. A new activity started in August 1990 is a monthly meeting early in the morning in a wood near Tel-Aviv for study and meditation. A one-day seminar on regeneration was held in October with about 70 participants. Weekly meetings of members and talks on Theosophy in other spiritual groups continue. The membership has increased.

We are informed that the Australian Section had an eventful year starting with the convention at Sydney in January 1990. A new project is the financing of a part-time lectureship for a course on the Gnostic Tradition at the Sydney University, which has proved popular. The Theosophy-Science Group meets regularly at Blavatsky Lodge, Sydney, and they organized a seminar in the Manor Centre which was attended by members from different parts of Australia and some from New Zealand.

In New Zealand there are over 1,800 members. Their convention had as guest speaker Mrs Diana Dunningham-Chapotin, who was also the chief guest at the Australian convention. Mr Philip S Harris of Australia made a lecture tour in the Section. Various activities go on as usual.

The first volume of *The Secret Doctrine* in Japanese was published during the

year and it is reported that the edition sold out in four months. Support was given for its publication by the Non-English Publications Fund as well as the Australian and New Zealand sections.

During the year several dedicated workers passed away. I can name only a few. Miss Joan Morris came from Canada and gave unstinting service to the Indian Section for a number of years, serving as its Assistant General Secretary for some time. She was an example of devotion and self-sacrifice. Mr C.R.N. Swamy, who was International Treasurer for several years under the Presidency of Mr John Coats, will be remembered for his fine understanding of Theosophy, as much as for his dedication. He was General Secretary of the Burmese Section at one time and later on the editor of TPH publications at Adyar. Mrs Seetha Neelakantan was the competent Librarian of the Adyar Library and Research Centre during a few decades. Her lectures were appreciated in many parts of the world. Her service to the TS included a period at the American Section headquarters where she set up the Oriental Section of the Library. Mr Charles Baiden was a strong pillar of the Society in Ghana and his loss is keenly felt not only in that country but in the whole of West Africa. Naturally, every year the Society has to bear the departure of such stalwarts and raise from its ranks others to take their place and serve the theosophical cause with equal dedication and staunchness.

The Adyar Library and Research Centre has been going on well despite there being no full-time Librarian. The publications brought out this year were a literary work, *Udārarāghava* edited by Prof. Venkatachari of Toronto University

and the *Kaushitaka Brahmana Upanishad* edited by Dr E.R. Sreekrishna Sarma. A descriptive catalogue of the Tamil manuscripts in the Library is almost ready for release. The Adyar Library Bulletin *Brahmaavidya* has been published regularly and well received. The financial position of the Library is much improved because of income derived from the Endowment Fund. Discussions have taken place with a representative of the University of Chicago for collaborative conservation work, with the encouragement of Mr John Kern whose visit to Adyar during the year was very welcome.

The Theosophical Publishing House which manages the Book Gift Fund has distributed a number of titles to public and university libraries, including some books of J. Krishnamurti, as desired by the donor to the fund. The normal programme of publication has gone on and the sale returns have been good.

The January-March 1990 session of the School of the Wisdom was directed by Miss Joy Mills on the theme 'Exploring Pathways to Self-Transformation'. It had a very representative group of students from several countries. During the latter part of this session International Vice-President Mr Surendra Narayan, Mr Achyut Patwardhan, Mr S.S. Varma and myself gave courses.

In October 1990 the School of the Wisdom provided an intensive course on theosophical study and work, with Mr Justice A.R. Bakshi, Dr Hugh Gray, Mr Achyut Patwardhan and myself dealing with various aspects. It attracted about forty students, mainly from India with some from abroad. The following eight-week course was directed by Mr J.G. Patterson from New Zealand on

'Essential Theosophy and Its Rediscovery by Modern Investigators'. His talks were illustrated by slides and drawings, and the students participated with keenness in the discussions.

After the departure of Mr and Mrs Conrad Jamieson to New Zealand, Dr Hugh Gray, formerly General Secretary of the English Section, took over as International Secretary. Mr Paul Zwollo of Holland has come to take charge of the Museum and Archives Department from 1st January. Mr Abdul Rahim Sabry El Hakim, a member from Cairo, who is well qualified is a valuable addition to the Treasury staff. He is Assistant Treasurer along with Mr Ch. Sankar Rao. Mr D.K. Govindaraj who joined the headquarters staff a year ago is a young volunteer from a theosophical family, who gave up his lucrative career to work for the Society. He is now the General Manager of the estate, whose presence is valuable in many ways, as he is a knowledgeable Chartered Accountant. We are happy to have all the above honorary workers. Several more volunteer workers are expected during the coming year.

Work at the Social Welfare Centre is now under the aegis of the Olcott Education Society. A weaving loom donated by an Indian member has been commissioned and training is being given to poor mothers who wish to earn a supplementary income. During the coming year some broken down cottages will be reconstructed and further development will take place at the centre.

The Olcott Memorial High School has come to be appreciated by many as a school for the underprivileged with special programmes. Further donations have been received from Madame Alice

Eichenberger of Geneva for additions to the Craft Centre where children are being trained in tailoring, plumbing, screen-printing, carpentry and similar trades that are useful for self-employment. Four new classrooms will be built in the coming months. Several of the thatched roofs of the classrooms in the primary section will be converted into semi-permanent roofing, possibly with aid given by the Government of India.

Requests to use the Scout Camping Centre have been so numerous that a second camping site was inaugurated on 1st October 1990. This day was most appropriate for the purpose, as scouting in India was started by Dr Besant and grew under her loving care. Other Theosophists like Mr G. S. Arundale and F.G. Pearce took a prominent part in making use of scouting for character building in an enjoyable way. A second kitchen and other facilities are now available for two large groups of children to camp at the same time.

The beautiful Buddhist shrine at Adyar which was built in 1925 has been renovated along with the little mosque designed after the famous Pearl Mosque in Delhi. Specially qualified craftsmen with the skills necessary to do the ornamental work and maintain the original form were brought to Adyar for this purpose.

The regular programme of improving the standard of amenities for visitors to Adyar is going on. A new self-contained room has been constructed in Bhojana-sala and improvements have been made in both Leadbeater Chambers and the Indian quarters.

As a result of laying underground electric cables along the main road from

the gate to the beach, we will now be able to let avenue trees grow freely without pruning the branches overhanging electric wires. Madras being a cyclone-prone area, it is altogether more satisfactory to have underground cables. During the coming year, more such work will be done and eventually all the electric cables will be underground.

A programme of computerization has begun with the purchase of one for the Treasury. The Adyar Library will also be computerized during the coming year, and progressively our offices will be better equipped. The Brazilian Section has generously donated a Fax machine which will facilitate communication with sections overseas.

The Theosophical Order of Service is active in some, but not all parts of the theosophical world. The TOS in England and Australia have donated considerable sums to a variety of good causes. The latter held a public forum at the time of the TS Convention on 'Why We Need the International Literacy Year'. India reports increased activity. There are about a hundred groups in the country. The TOS in the US educates the public on such subjects as addiction, animal welfare and ecology through its quarterly publication *For the Love of Life*. In East Africa, the poor and sick are helped in several ways. The TOS in France sponsored the education of fifty-seven

underprivileged children and sent food and medicines to needy areas. We hope this work will develop and testify to the practical benefits that flow from a theosophical heart.

We are surrounded by darkness in many forms: violence, sensuality and corruption. Too many people accept unrighteousness as an inevitable element in society and adapt themselves into the pattern of the world without reflection or a conscious choice. They come to believe that selfishness is in one's best interests, oblivious of the fact that if all people were to believe entirely in selfishness as the way to well-being, humanity would be engulfed by horrors of every sort. What saves human society to a certain extent is the faith in goodness and the natural acts of sacrifice and service that can still be found among people, although it is being constantly eroded.

Faith in the power of truth, in goodness, in unselfish living is essential for the progress of humanity. It is much more important than belief in creeds. It implies loyalty to one's own true nature, to the immaculate Spirit within that is the means of salvation for each individual and all of humanity.

Let the Buddha-nature, the Christ-spirit, the Siva-tattva of each one here rise and reveal itself. Let it heal the world by its Compassion and Wisdom, and let there be peace for all beings.

RADHA BURNIER

TREASURER'S REPORT

THE TREASURER'S REPORT

AND

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 MARCH 1990

TREASURER'S REPORT

As mentioned in the last year's report the Income Tax Act has been amended and several new clauses relating to charitable institutions have affected us. One is that any charitable institution seeking exemption of its income from Income Tax must have investments only in ways prescribed in that Act. So we had to sell investments in private companies both Indian and foreign on or before March 1990. The Balance Sheet therefore shows a Nil balance against Foreign Investments and other Securities as against Rs. 1,078,379 last year. Shares of a book value of Rs. 35,100 which were found unsaleable were written off, the others were sold yielding net proceeds of Rs. 3,022,379. Tax exemption which was applied for and has since been obtained for three years. The format of the accounts has not been changed.

A Computer PC/XT with a Printer was ordered for the Treasury in March; it has been installed and the computerization is expected to be completed by March 1991.

On charitable work this year Rs. 363,268 have been spent against Rs. 276,852 during the previous accounting period of 18 months, and on propagation of Theosophy Rs. 2,808,149 against Rs. 4,329,744 for 18 months. These have been financed mainly from the current income and drawing from other funds excepting, Rs. 240,197 which have been met out of grants-in-aid accounts from the Government of India.

The Revenue of the Society this year shows an excess of Rs. 64,641 over the expenditure, against a deficit of Rs. 128,514 during the previous accounting period.

As for the departments, the following may be noted.

The Adyar Library and Research Centre—The net cost of running the Library and Research Centre during the year ending on 31-3-1990 has gone down to Rs. 11,959 against Rs. 99,856 during the previous accounting period of 18 months mainly due to interest from the Adyar Library Endowment Fund.

Garden Department—As indicated last year there is distinct improvement in the working of the Department. The income has gone up for 18 months from Rs. 167,675 to Rs. 202,957 for the current year. The net deficit has come down to Rs. 36,878 from Rs. 202,765 for the previous accounting period.

The Maintenance Department—The Maintenance Department has been carrying out extensive repairs and maintenance of the buildings in the Estate. This has become necessary as most of the buildings are very old. The total revenue amount spent by the department on several accounts during the year was Rs. 1,398,451 compared to Rs. 1,607,168 during the previous accounting period.

The Theosophical Publishing House has shown a surplus of Rs. 445,407 for the year under review.

Archives—The Archives have been air-conditioned so that all acquisitions can be now properly preserved. Only the display rooms are without air-conditioning facility.

The Vasanta Press—The Vasanta Press shows an excess of expenditure over income of Rs. 53,835 as against Rs. 202,148 during the previous accounting period.

Grants for Educational Work—The Government of India has provided Rs. 103,300 from the Ministry of Human Resources Development in order to improve the work in the Olcott Memorial School.

Funds—The Adyar Besant Commemorative Fund has during this year increased from Rs. 9,103,100 to Rs. 14,835,604; the Adyar Library Endowment Fund from Rs. 1,795,254 to Rs. 1,899,586 and the Education Endowment Fund from Rs. 1,972,418 to Rs. 2,544,822.

The overall financial position of the Theosophical Society continues to be satisfactory.

16 October 1990

S. S. VARMA
Hony. Treasurer

FEES AND DUES RECEIVED

(From April 1989 to 31 March 1990)

	1988-89	1989-90
	Rs.	Rs.
The Theosophical Society in Africa East and Central ...	91	—
" Africa South ...	2,717	846
" Africa West ...	1,966	—
" America Central ...	1,171	80
" Argentina ...	6,905	11,260
" Australia ...	70,901	38,642
" Austria ...	10,453	—
" Belgium ...	8,871	9,705
" Bolivia ...	1,133	1,632
" Brazil ...	5,105	11,697
" Canada ...	3,829	2,535
" Chile ...	2,055	215
" Colombia ...	1,200	—
" Cuba ...	1,491	—
" Denmark ...	10,194	—
" England ...	32,344	—
" Finland ...	—	14,176
" Germany ...	21,547	19,845
" Iceland ...	4,171	5,159
" India ...	41,636	29,200
" Ireland, North ...	—	84
" Ireland ...	1,953	1,448
" Italy ...	14,346	43,279
" Mexico ...	2,032	2,737
" Netherlands ...	—	90,227
" New Zealand ...	11,773	—
" Norway ...	—	5,885
" Pakistan ...	500	—
" Peru ...	122	837
" Philippines ...	—	4,078
" Portugal ...	1,682	—
" Puerto Rico ...	3,403	—
" Scotland ...	714	—
" Spain ...	8,469	11,587
" Sweden ...	2,340	4,439
" Switzerland ...	3,855	—
" U.S.A. ...	419,297	172,463
" Uruguay ...	4,212	3,373
" Venezuela ...	712	836
" Wales ...	1,193	733
" Yugoslavia ...	3,424	—
Lodges attached to Adyar ...	7,521	11,315
Fellows at large ...	3,995	2,470
	719,323	500,783

THE THEOSOPHICAL

BALANCE SHEET AS

As at 31-3-1989		LIABILITIES	Schedule No.	As at 31-3-1990	
Rs.	Rs.			Rs.	Rs.
		General Fund:			
	13,163,541	Balance as per last Balance Sheet ...		16,192,213	
	1,515,307	Add: Donations for Capital Additions ...		545,000	
	264,301	„ Transfer from Education fund for Capital Additions ...		—	
	30,639	„ Donations for additional printing machine ...		—	
	36,990	„ Grant for Purchase of equipment —Adyar Library ...		—	
	1,282,734	„ Transfer from Adyar Estate Improvement Fund ...		796,362	
	27,215	Grant-in-Aid from Government of India utilized for construction of well at Olcott School ...		3,234	
	16,320,727			17,536,809	
	—	Less: Investments written off ...		35,100	
	(128,514)	Surplus / (Deficit) for the year ...		17,501,709	
16,192,213				64,641	17,566,350
	9,103,100	Adyar Besant Commemorative Fund ...		14,835,604	
17,246,694	8,143,594	Other Funds ...	5	10,399,610	25,235,214
1,551,520		Current Liabilities and Provisions ...	6		1,710,785
		Other Liabilities—			
		Grant-in-Aid from Government of India utilized for Olcott Memorial School ...			—
253,535					
		Notes on Accounts ...	7		
35,243,962					44,512,349

In the opinion of the Committee the Current Assets, Loans and Advances are approximately of the value stated if realized in the ordinary course of transacting the affairs of the Society and the Provision made in the accounts for all known liabilities is adequate.

SOCIETY, ADYAR, MADRAS 600 020

AT 31 MARCH 1990

[illegible]

This is the Balance Sheet referred to in our Report of even date.

FRASER & ROSS
Chartered Accountants

THE THEOSOPHICAL

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

18 Months ended 31-3-1989	EXPENDITURE	Year ended 31-3-1990		
Rs.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
	Departments (Net Expenditure)			
29,195	Bhojanasala ...		12,522	
202,765	Garden ...		36,878	
39,631	Leadbeater Chambers ...		35,128	
1,250,319	Maintenance ...		1,115,257	1,199,785
	Charitable Work			
3,030	Animal Welfare ...		4,836	
161,011	Education ...		257,682	
2,100	Distress Relief ...		1,400	
45,305	Free Dispensary ...		31,624	
4,454	Medical Treatment ...		4,038	
16,336	Grants to Theosophical Order of Service ...		—	
6,105	School Fees and Books ...		9,240	
30,596	Social Welfare work ...		15,118	
7,925	Miscellaneous Charities ...		9,330	
276,862			363,268	
(57,476)	<i>Less: Govt. of India Grant utilized for school ...</i>	240,197		
(174,081)	Transfer from Other Funds ...	44,543		
45,305			284,740	78,528
	Propagation of Theosophy:			
	Adyar Library			
217,591	Publication Expenses ...		163,727	
391,447	Other Expenses ...		257,424	
			421,151	
	The Theosophical Publishing House			
1,141,284	Trading Expenses ...	656,431		
624,285	Other Expenses ...	438,771		
7,786	Adjustment Relating to Prior Years Account ...	—		
296,250			1,095,202	
	The Theosophist and Adyar Newsletter		191,312	
	The Vasanta Press			
1,151,271	Production expenses ...	738,647		
461,934	Other expenses ...	299,611		
			1,038,258	
	Contribution to Adyar Library and			
18,500	Research Centre ...		—	
2,304	School of Wisdom ...		9,552	
3,063	T. S. Workers' Training Camp ...		35,895	
1,794	Information and Public Relations ...		4,540	
129	Non-English Publications ...		847	
11,949	Archives and Museums ...		7,363	
157	Theosophy Science Study Group ...		4,029	
5,896,959			2,808,149	
(3,193)	<i>Less: Transfer from Other Funds ...</i>		36,742	2,771,407
5,893,766				
	International Offices			
40,410	President and Vice-President ...		42,014	
187,755	Treasurer ...		128,417	
118,108	Secretary ...		46,009	216,440
	Establishment			
66,697	Headquarters ...		46,835	
34,402	General Manager's Office ...		18,264	
96,861	Movable Properties Department ...		112,534	
44,116	Sanitary Department ...		27,265	
424,771	Security Department ...		300,435	505,333
6,906,886				4,771,493
	c/o			

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 1990

[illegible]

THE THEOSOPHICAL INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

18 Months ended 31-3-1989	EXPENDITURE	Year ended 31-3-1990	
Rs.		Rs.	Rs.
6,906,886	b/f		4,771,493
5,492	Other Expenses		
33,257	Insurance Premium	3,208	
53,731	Legal, Audit Fees and Court Expenses	52,820	
1,678	Rates and Taxes	34,925	
660,413	Bank charges	1,859	
35,940	Depreciation	433,025	
29,963	Motor Car Expenses	26,585	
—	Miscellaneous	37,595	
	Surplus transferred to General Fund		590,017
			64,641
7,726,860			
			5,426,151

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 1990

S. S. VARMA
Hony. Treasurer

THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

BUDGET FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31-3-1992

EXPENDITURE		INCOME	
	Rs.		Rs.
Departments		Propagation of Theosophy	
Bhojanasala ...	25,950	Adyar Library & Research Centre ...	322,000
Garden ...	34,000	Theosophical Publishing House	1,129,800
Leadbeater Chambers ...	26,000	The Theosophist and Adyar Newsletter ...	224,600
Maintenance ...	1,391,400	The Vasanta Press ...	908,000
Charitable Works		General Donations ...	200,000
Animal Welfare ...	6,000	Interest and Dividends ...	1,800,000
Education ...	150,000	Membership Fees and Dues ...	300,000
Distress Relief ...	5,000	Licence Fees ...	72,000
Free Dispensary ...	36,000	Quarters Maintenance ...	200,000
Medical Treatment ...	6,000	Income from Properties outside Adyar ...	7,500
Grants to Theosophical Order of Service ...	10,000	Miscellaneous Receipts ...	25,000
School Fees and Books ...	15,000	Excess of Expenditure over Income ...	49,750
Social Welfare Work ...	18,000		
H.P.B. Hostel ...	10,000		
Miscellaneous Charities ...	15,000		
Less drawn from Funds ...	(235,000)		
Propagation of Theosophy			
Adyar Library & Research Centre ...	334,300		
Theosophical Publishing House	470,600		
The Theosophist and Adyar Newsletter ...	237,300		
The Vasanta Press ...	1,044,000		
School of the Wisdom ...	10,000		
T.S. Workers Training Camp ...	20,000		
Information and Public Relations ...	6,000		
Archives and Museums ...	10,000		
Less drawn from Funds ...	(20,000)		
International Offices			
President and Vice-President ...	45,000		
Treasurer ...	150,000		
Secretary ...	60,000		
Establishment			
Headquarters ...	50,000		
General Manager's Office ...	16,000		
Movable Properties Department ...	109,000		
Sanitary Department ...	36,000		
Security Department ...	361,600		
Other Expenses			
Insurance Premium ...	5,000		
Legal and Audit Expenses ...	45,000		
Taxes ...	48,000		
Bank Charges ...	2,500		
Motor Car Expenses ...	40,000		
Miscellaneous ...	45,000		
Depreciation ...	600,000		
	<u>5,238,650</u>		<u>5,238,650</u>

OFFICERS AND HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS FOR 1991

Executive Committee

1. Mr. S. S. Srinivasan President
2. Mr. S. S. Srinivasan Vice-President
3. Mr. S. S. Srinivasan Secretary
4. Mr. S. S. Srinivasan Treasurer
5. Mr. S. S. Srinivasan Chairman, Finance Committee
6. Mr. S. S. Srinivasan
7. Mr. S. S. Srinivasan
8. Mr. S. S. Srinivasan
9. Mr. S. S. Srinivasan
10. Mr. S. S. Srinivasan

HEADQUARTERS
ADYAR, MADRAS 600 020
INDIA

Department of Management

Mr. S. S. Srinivasan

Mr. S. S. Srinivasan

Mr. S. S. Srinivasan

Mr. S. S. Srinivasan

Mr. S. S. Srinivasan

Mr. S. S. Srinivasan

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Mr. S. S. Srinivasan

Mr. S. S. Srinivasan

OFFICERS AND HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS FOR 1991

Executive Committee:

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Mrs Radha Burnier | <i>President</i> |
| 2. Mr Surendra Narayan | <i>Vice-President</i> |
| 3. Dr Hugh Gray | <i>Secretary</i> |
| 4. Mr A. Sabry | <i>Treasurer</i> |
| 5. Mrs Norma Y. Sastry | <i>General Council Member</i> |
| 6. Mr S. S. Varma | " " |
| 7. Mr Ch. Sankar Rao | |
| 8. Mr R. Gopalaratnam | |
| 9. Mr K. Visvanathan | |
| 10. Mr D. K. Govindaraj | |

General Manager: Mr D. K. Govindaraj

Adyar Library: *Director:* Dr K. K. Raja

Librarian: Mrs Parvati Gopalaratnam

Bhojanasala: Mr M. K. Natarajan

Bookshop: Mr C. Seshadri

Garden: Mr P. S. Venkataraman

Information: Mr C. Seshadri

Leadbeater Chambers: Mr S. M. Amarnath Rao

Miss Mariya Eugenia Bravo Vergara

Maintenance: Mr T. Lakshman

Medical and Sanitary: Dr S. V. Joseph

Movable Properties: Mr S. M. Amarnath Rao

Museum and Archives: Mr Paul Zwollo

School of the Wisdom: *Director:* Dr Ravi Ravindra (Jan.-March 1991)

Mr Rohit Mehta (Oct.-Dec. 1991)

Security: Mr D. V. Subramaniam

Theosophical Publishing House: *Manager:* Mr R. Gopalaratnam

Editor: Mr Michael Gomes

The Theosophist: *Assistant Editor:* Mr G. Naganathan

Vasanta Press: Mr B. K. Rao

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS 1990

National Societies and Sections		37			No. of Lodges and Study Centres	No. of Members
Regional Associations (formed under Rule 35(c))		3	Section			
Presidential Agencies		8	27.	Ireland, Rep. of	1	30
Total Lodges and Study Centres		1,082	28.	Italy	45	1,095
Total Membership 1989		31,045	29.	Mexico	13	330
Total Membership 1990		31,601	30.	Myanmar	—	—
			31.	Netherlands	18	67
			32.	New Zealand	16	1,822
			33.	Norway	—	—
			34.	Pakistan	5	200
			35.	Peru	2	30
			36.	Philippines	11	382
			37.	Portugal	12	281
			38.	Puerto Rico	6	162
			39.	Scotland	5	156
			40.	Spain	13	319
			41.	Sri Lanka	8	—
			42.	Sweden	7	206
			43.	Switzerland	—	154
			44.	U.S.A.	145	5,287
			46.	Uruguay	—	—
			46.	Venezuela	2	40
			47.	Wales	2	72
			48.	Yugoslavia	3	67
				Total	1,083	31,517
			Lodges attached directly to Adyar			
			1.	Comilla (Bangladesh)	1	36
			2.	Cameroon	—	—
			3.	Hongkong	—	—
			4.	Tel Aviv (Israel)	1	30
			5.	Tokyo and Osaka (Japan)	—	—
			6.	Korea	—	—
			7.	Fellows at Large	—	15
				Total	2	81

THE THEOSOPHICAL PUBLISHING HOUSE

The Theosophical Publishing House at Adyar has maintained steady progress. We brought out twenty reprints of our classics during the year including books long out of print, such as *Life and Its Spirals* and *The Story of Creation* by E. W. Preston and *The Occult Training of the Hindus* by Ernest Wood. We have 24 books in the press, most of which we expect to bring out during 1991, including a new book by Justice A. R. Bakshi entitled *Man and the Universe*. Other books on the anvil include *The Philosophy of the Bhagavad Gita* by Swami T. Subba Row, *The Philosophy of Yoga Vasishtha*

by B. L. Atreya and *Yoga Darshana* by Ganganath Jha.

The Book Gift Fund has been used to distribute not only theosophical literature but four titles of J. Krishnamurti to universities and public libraries in India. Similar distribution of books will also be done next year as substantial funds from the generous donor are still available for this purpose.

Adyar Newsletter is being printed on art paper to improve its quality.

MR R. GOPALARATNAM
Manager

THE ADYAR LIBRARY AND RESEARCH CENTRE

We regret to record the passing away on 7 April 1990 of Mrs Seetha Neelakantan who served as Librarian since 1957 for several decades, with dedication and efficiency.

A happy event of the year was the award of the Certificate of Merit for Samskrit scholarship by the President of India to the Director of the Library, Dr K. Kunjunni Raja. The Director as well as other scholars on the staff of the Library, namely Dr E. R. Sreekrishna Sarma, Dr S. Sankaranarayanan and Dr K. V. Sarma were invited to participate in a number of seminars and other conferences where they presented papers.

Publications Released

Uddārāghava of Sākalyamalla with commentaries, ed. with introduction and notes by Prof. Venkatachari of Toronto University.

Kauṣītaka Brāhmaṇa Upaniṣad, edited by Dr E. R. Sreekrishna Sarma, with a translation by Dr A. G. Krishna Warriar.

Works to be Released shortly

Chāndogyaopaniṣad, with the commentary of Upaniṣad Brahmayogin, revised edition by Dr S. Sankaranarayanan.

Descriptive Catalogue of Tamil Manuscripts in the Adyar Library by Pandit Ramachandra Sarma.

In the Press

Sanṅgītaratnākara of Sāringadeva, with commentaries, revised edition, Vol. I, by Smt. S. Sarada.

Publications Taken Up

1. *Textual Criticism and Editorial Principles*, with special reference to

Sanskrit, by Dr K. Kunjunni Raja and Dr K. V. Sarma.

2. *Prābhākara Vyākhyā*, ed. with English translation by Dr E. R. Sreekrishna Sarma.
3. *Descriptive Catalogue of Śrauta Manuscripts* by Dr S. Sankaranarayanan with the assistance of Pandit Ramachandra Sarma.
4. *Upanishan Maṅgalābharanam*, ed. by Dr E. R. Sreekrishna Sarma.

Brahmavidyā

The Adyar Library Bulletin, *Brahmavidyā*, has 22 life subscribers, 108 yearly subscribers and 95 exchanges. Volume 54 is due to appear early in 1991.

Services Rendered

The following were supplied to scholars and researchers: photocopies of paper MSS 1,360 frames; of palm-leaf MSS 1,633 frames; of transcripts 3,693 frames; of books 16,404 frames; total including other materials 25,804 frames. For the Adyar Library 2,714 frames were prepared.

Repair and Preservation

In the binding section 765 books in-

cluding 3 laminated books were bound, and 13 books were repaired.

Acquisition and Cataloguing

During the year 2,267 books were added to the collections, of which 1,213 were catalogued.

Our thanks are due to TPH Wheaton for 14 books, TPH Adyar for 40 books; Nehru Museum, Delhi, 47 books; the President's Office, 94 books, received as gifts.

Books Consulted

Consultations by the Library's 637 readers and 268 borrowers, as well as by the staff, numbered 38,103. A total of 6,373 books were borrowed.

Research Scholars

Eighteen research scholars from various universities abroad and 17 from India used the library for their work.

Visitors

Visitors during the year numbered 8,436, including some from the USSR, USA, England, Yugoslavia and other countries.

MRS PARVATI GOPALARATNAM
Librarian

THE SCHOOL OF THE WISDOM

As usual, there were two sessions of the School during the year. The October-December 1989 session was on the theme 'The Secret of Meditation Communion' directed by Mr Rohit Mehta and attracted nearly thirty participants from several countries: Australia, Belgium, England, Italy, Israel and the United States besides India. The course covered systems of meditation in the East and West, the relevance of meditation in the

modern age and the nature of the new shift in consciousness. Inaugurating the session Mr Achyut Patwardhan emphasized that without laying the foundation for a righteous life, meditation becomes an escape and therefore has no value whatsoever. Mr Mehta noted that the secret of meditation has to be discovered by each man for himself—it is not something which can be communicated by one individual to another.

The January-March 1990 session of the School opened on 8 January 1990 with participants and observers from Australia, Finland, Sweden, Holland and Japan besides several parts of India. The first half of the session was directed by Miss Joy Mills, Director of the Krotona School of Theosophy, on the theme 'Exploring Pathways to Self-Transformation'. Beginning with a series on two classic texts, *Light on the Path* and *The Voice of the Silence*, she dealt with Mystical Traditions, Mythology and psychological insights.

The second half of the session was on

the theme 'The Deeper Aspects of Life' and featured four speakers: Mr Surendra Narayan on the topic 'From Bondage to Liberty'; Mr Achyut Patwardhan discussing 'The Known and the Unknown'; Mr S. S. Varma conducting a study on 'Toward Perfection'; followed by Mrs Radha Burnier on 'Journey Inwards'.

Inaugurating the session, Mrs Burnier said the mind has to become free and pure in order to find wisdom. Awareness, enquiry, love and compassion must become part of one's life.

The average attendance at this session was 22.

MUSEUM AND ARCHIVES

No report

OLCOTT EDUCATION SOCIETY

Olcott Memorial School

This school, started by Col. H. S. Olcott and run for the benefit of the underprivileged, has at present a strength of 460 boys and 245 girls with a staff of 43 teachers of whom 23 get paid by the government.

We are engaged in an innovative programme as a breakthrough in confidence-building. The basic problem of undernourishment is being looked after by a breakfast scheme financed by donations. Cultural activities are given due place in the curriculum.

The Craft Centre at the school started in 1989 prepares the students for self-employment and apprenticeship in trade firms. They learn typing, screen printing, tailoring, carpentry and plumbing. Four more class-rooms are under con-

struction to teach book-binding, home science, etc.

H.P.B. Hostel

Founded in 1971, the H.P.B. Hostel for boys provides accommodation for some students of the Olcott Memorial School with potential abilities who lack facilities at home. There are eighteen boys at present in the hostel, all of them sponsored by TS members and lodges in various countries.

Social Welfare Centre

The Social Welfare Centre consists of two crèches and two *balwadis* (for children) under a superintendent and medical officer. More than a hundred poor children enrolled in them are looked after while the mothers go to work and are given free

breakfast and lunch. To help poor women earn some income of their own, there is a tailoring unit. A weaving section was started during the year where they learn to make napkins, towels, etc.

Centre for Educators

The Centre for Educators called 'Banyan' has been active in programmes for encouraging right thinking and attitudes among teachers. It held a number of workshops during the year.

THEOSOPHICAL ORDER OF SERVICE

Reports of TOS work around the world illustrate its role as a channel of international cooperation. Unfortunately, reports have been received only from some countries. I earnestly implore all Sections to enlarge the TOS work and report to me in order to enable future reports to be more comprehensive.

Let us remind ourselves of HPB's dictum in *The Key to Theosophy*:

The theosophical ideas of charity mean personal exertion for others; personal mercy and kindness; personal interest in the welfare of those who suffer; personal sympathy, forethought and assistance in their troubles or needs.

Since its founding in 1908 by Dr Annie Besant, the TOS has a proud record of service to the needy without any distinction of caste, creed or colour. As our International President, Mrs Radha Burnier, has pointed out: 'A true Theosophist can never be indifferent to suffering and as a group we should try to help those who suffer in whatever way we can.' Every human shares his life with those around him—and his personal example in helping the needy will influence others.

Higher Education for Girls

Under the auspices of the Olcott Education Society fifteen girls were helped to get education beyond the school level. Five are in college and nine doing pre-college courses, while one graduate is receiving aid to study for the Master's degree. All the girls except the last-mentioned are 16 to 20 years old.

MR N. JANAKIRAM
Secretary

Deep compassion for all creatures is the great message spread by the Buddha, Christ and all other great spiritual teachers of humanity. There are a thousand ways and opportunities to help, making the life of those around us happier, with a concern extending beyond humans, to animals and plants. Compassion is not just pity but profound understanding, tenderness and a burning desire to help.

Abolition of cruelty to animals is an essential part of TOS work. The sum-total of suffering inflicted on animals by man darkens the psychic atmosphere of our planet. He who accepts the suffering inflicted on animals blunts his own sensitivity and it is not long before he is liable to apply his acquired indifference to cruelty against fellow-man. One cannot be kind to some and cruel to others. So respect for all life should be recognized as a fundamental truth.

Australia

A brief report cannot do full justice to the dedicated service of the TOS work in Australia, as diversified as animal welfare, peace studies, vegetarianism, holistic healing and social service which includes work for aborigines, refugees, children's

welfare and the aged. Most groups reported active programmes for Amnesty International, Association for Human Research, and AUSTCARE. The Sydney group helped more than forty organizations with financial contributions for their relief projects. The Adelaide group gave a large sum of money for the severely handicapped for purchase of communication boards, maintenance of wheel-chairs, etc. Several groups were engaged in animal welfare work.

As international aid, \$1,500 was sent for flood relief in India, and \$431 for a Buddhist orphanage in Chittagong, Bangladesh. Sixty parcels of fabrics were sent to the Kotagiri Women's Cooperative in India, for whom help has been continuously given since it began in 1976.

East Africa

TOS work in East and Central Africa includes free health clinics, constructing water tanks in rural areas, distribution of food, blankets and bedsheets to poor patients, providing scholarships, uniforms and stationery to poor students, financial help to orphanages, visiting old and sick persons, condolence visits and healing sessions.

England

Aid was given to forty service organizations, including OXFAM (£ 2,000 for relief work in Ethiopia and Mozambique), Action Aid, and the Intermediate Technology Development Group which aim to make the recipients independent of aid. Total aid during the year exceeded £25,000, including contributions of £2,000 for rehabilitation of hurricane victims in Nicaragua and £1,000 for disabled Afghan refugees. The anti-fur campaign appears to be working. Most of the big London stores have ceased to sell furs. It is becoming a little more fashionable to be

vegetarian and to demand cruelty-free cosmetics. A fund-raising social gathering was held during the year.

France

In addition to varied relief work in the country, TOS France sent food, medicine and cloth parcels to Rumania, Poland and India; also sponsored education of 57 children in different centres in India and Nepal, including four in Adyar. Every year they send vitamins to each dispensary and school under their care abroad, and a Bombay firm provides to the same dispensaries more specific medicines. Clothes, medicines and glasses were also sent to the Cameroun, Zaire, Congo, and Lebanon. Twice a month they hold a spiritual healing ritual for peace in the world, and once a month a special evening of prayers and meditation. Funds for TOS work are raised through an annual charity sale.

India

Mrs Saraswati Narayan, National Director, reports that the year was one of increased activity in several regions. India is divided into twenty regions with about a hundred TOS groups spread all over the country. During the year, aid was given to victims of the Andhra Pradesh cyclone and Iranian earthquake. TOS activities included free distribution of medicines, milk powder, food articles, books, notebooks, clothes and bedsheets; provision of scholarships; immunization programmes, eye camps, digging of wells, etc. In some regions the handicapped were helped by distribution of tricycles and other aids; others organized visits to hospitals, destitutes and aged persons, tree plantations, blood donations, care of animals, creating awareness against poverty and hunger, and training of women in sewing and handicrafts. Through 'Save the Children

Fund' sponsorship schemes were instituted to help deserving children and schools for the underprivileged. Bro. M. S. Prasad, Director, Rural Development, has adopted Kuria, a village in Bihar, for all-round TOS work.

Programmes relating to adult literacy, family planning, prevention of blindness, and care of the aged are being considered for a common minimum national project in all regions and groups.

New Zealand

Healing, ecology, counselling of parents, animal welfare, promoting world peace, and social service are the main activities of the TOS in New Zealand. It seeks to promote the study and practice of holistic living. The Social Service group works for child welfare, aid to prisoners, care of the aged, handicapped, migrants, etc., and for social reform by working with established organizations.

Philippines

The TOS continued its 'Intensive Rehabilitation Programme for Severely Malnourished Children' in Metro Manila. A total of 108 children were rehabilitated. Their Self-Reliance Programme included 245 interest-free loans in 11 depressed areas in Metro Manila. Under the Educational Sponsorship Programme a total of 51 students received their entire schooling expenses. Two Basic Dress Making training courses were conducted with a total of 30 women participants. Another new project is a Credit Cooperative under TOS sponsorship.

U.S.A.

The several departments are: Ecology, Healing Network, Peace, Animal Welfare, Social Service, Art and Music. They publish a quarterly journal, *For the Love of Life* devoted to educating the public. The Healing Network now comprises

forty groups, and there have been many reports of progress in the condition of those whose names are on the healing list. The Social Service department has promoted group projects for homeless shelters, soup kitchens and aid to prisoners. The drug crisis is another area of work. A workshop and conference on service were held at Krotona in which TOS members also took part. Many members of the TS are now keenly interested in doing something to help the critical state of the world and all its kingdoms and this provides a good opportunity for cooperation between the TS and TOS.

Rationale of Service

Why should we serve others? The simple answer is that we have all emerged from the same source. When we realize the truth of the Oneness of all life, we can appreciate the import of the Universal Prayer:

May each who feels himself as one
with Thee

Know he is also one with every other.
This is the secret of universal brotherhood.
Our International President has pointed out:

Service is the total abnegation of self-interest which leads a person to act for the good of 'others', because he realizes that there is no 'other'. The 'other' is part of the whole. Outgoing generosity, openness of heart, and action which emanates from the feeling of unity characterize real service.

While the fatherhood of God has been stressed, the brotherhood of man continues to be regrettably ignored. Let us all lend a hand to rectify this imbalance.

MR C. SESHADRI
International Secretary

THEOSOPHY - SCIENCE GROUP

It was decided that the group should function under the aegis of the headquarters at Adyar. The assets and liabilities of the group were taken over by the TS. The quarterly magazine *Holistic Science and Human Values* was published as usual four times during the year, but subsequent publication was stopped. In future, once a year a publication will be brought out with the co-operation of Theosophist-scientists in the different Sections.

The Theosophy-Science Lecture at the 1989 International Convention at Adyar was delivered by Dr M. S. Swaminathan, internationally-known agro-scientist and President of the National Academy of Sciences in India, on the subject of 'Inter-Generational Equity'. The lecture was much appreciated for its unique approach to global welfare.

DR A. KANNAN
Secretary

REPORTS OF GENERAL SECRETARIES

GENERAL EAST AND CENTRAL

REPORTS FROM SECTIONS, NATIONAL SOCIETIES, REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS, PRESIDENTIAL REPRESENTATIVES, ETC.

(Where necessary, reports have been translated,
edited or condensed.)

REPORTS OF GENERAL SECRETARIES

AFRICA, EAST AND CENTRAL

Our Section consists of three regions—Kenya, Tanzania and Zambia. There is an overall decline of membership because of lapses. We now have a total membership of 712 in 21 lodges, one centre and five study groups. There has been an increase of African members in Zambia. In Kenya five study groups have been formed because of the tireless efforts of our National Lecturer, Mr Reuben Thuku. The number of members studying Theosophy is on the increase. Most of the lodges celebrate theosophical anniversaries.

Each region organized two seminars during the year, with representation from most of the lodges. In addition the study groups organized two weekend seminars in March and July on the theme 'Right Understanding Means Better Living'. These seminars play an important role in introducing Theosophy to new members as well as non-members and in recruiting workers for the lodges.

Besides lecturing and conducting study classes and seminars for members in all the three regions, Mr Thuku has been giving talks in schools, colleges and other institutions to disseminate Theosophy.

The Kenya Government has been encouraging religious studies in schools and TS members have been giving talks at teachers' seminars on Hinduism, Jainism and Buddhism. Senior members regularly visit various lodges giving talks and helping in lodge administration.

The Section continues to import and sell a considerable number of theosophical books. Introductory pamphlets on Theosophy are distributed regularly. There has been an increase in publicizing Theosophy through the press, television and radio. A score of national and university libraries are given gift subscriptions of *The Theosophist*, as are the four major newspapers. A half-hour Forum on Theosophy was televised in January 1990.

Several lodges carry on regular TOS work, providing scholarships, arranging elocution and essay competitions on theosophical subjects, holding healing sessions, and helping homes for the destitute, aged, orphans and the handicapped.

MR KIRAN H. SHAH
General Secretary

AFRICA, SOUTH

The work in South Africa goes on in spite of difficulties experienced in some lodges. Although attendance at public lectures is good, not many seem to want to commit themselves to the work of the Society. This means, of course, that we must organize ourselves better.

Our National Convention was held in Cape Town with myself as the main speaker. It proved an all-round success. The 1991 Convention will most likely be held in Johannesburg.

Certain amendments to our National

Constitution are being considered for presentation to the 1991 Convention.

We are planning to issue a golden certificate to members completing fifty years of unbroken membership. We com-

menced the year with 318 members and ended with 324, a net increase of six.

MR ARTHUR BUNTON
General Secretary

AMERICA, CENTRAL

No report

ARGENTINA

Our participation in the book-fair in Buenos Aires yielded excellent results. Thousands visited our stand; 45,000 leaflets were distributed; 200 books were sold; and three public lectures delivered.

National lecturers toured various lodges. Both summer and winter schools in our beautiful theosophical colony in San Rafael had good attendances—seventy in the former and forty-eight in the latter. A regional meeting was held in La Plata in June.

Our Section Journal *Cambios* has a new design and is sent not only to members but to other Spanish-speaking Sections. The journal conducted a Literary Test during the year to encourage national writers.

Thanks to generous donations from several members the third wing of the star-shaped building at San Rafael is being constructed and will be inaugurated next summer. No books were published during the year, but sales of theosophical literature registered an increase, especially in Buenos Aires. A workteam has been formed to prepare and sell audio and video cassettes. Seventeen persons are enrolled in our 12-month correspondence course. The response to it has been very good.

TOS work was revitalized during the year under Mrs Norma Porcelli from Rosario.

MRS NORA SPAIRANI
General Secretary

AUSTRALIA

The Australian Section has had an eventful year, with major changes in our staff at Section Headquarters, and a lot of work undertaken has been the upgrading of our resources. There has only been a small increase in our membership, and two of our small groups have ceased functioning. However, in general the lodge reports show a year of variety in activities and a commitment to theosophical work.

The main event for the Section was the National Convention in Sydney in January 1990. It was attended by members from all over Australia as well as from Indonesia, Kenya and New Zealand. The Guest Speaker was Diana Dunningham-Chapotin from New Zealand, and the theme was 'Theosophy 2000'.

A major project which came to fruition at the end of the year was the financing of a part-time lectureship for a course on

the Gnostic Tradition in which the Theosophical Society will be presented as an emergence of the Gnostic Tradition in modern times. This course is being run at Sydney University as a one-semester option in Religious Studies, and has so far proved popular. Several of the students have made use of the Adyar Library at Blavatsky Lodge for their research work.

Our magazine, *Theosophy in Australia* continues to be published quarterly, with a fifth special issue containing items from the Sydney National Convention.

Facilities provided by Section Headquarters include publicity leaflets, audio-cassettes, study courses and letters to new members, with a new video library being started during the year. Contact Letters are sent regularly to lodges, groups and national members.

The Theosophical Order of Service is active in a number of lodges. Its main national activity was a public forum held during the National Convention on the subject of 'Why do we need International Literacy Year?'

The Round Table has had an active year. The Adelaide Round Table celebrated the tenth anniversary of its 'rebirth', and also held a weekend camp which attracted members from Melbourne as well as from Adelaide.

The Theosophy-Science Group held regular meetings at Blavatsky Lodge in Sydney, and a national Theosophy-Science Seminar was held at the Manor in Sydney during December 1989. A regular quarterly news-letter continued to be sent out.

MISS DIANNE K. KYNASTON
General Secretary

AUSTRIA

The work goes on in the usual way. There is nothing special to report.

MRS MARGARET LAUPPERT
General Secretary

BELGIUM

As for many years, the TS in Belgium has had eight lodges—four French-speaking ones in Brussels and four in provincial towns. Two are in the Flemish area and two are French-speaking.

The lodges in Brussels study basic Theosophy, the Yogasutras of Patanjali, Krishnamurti's teaching and Astrology. There are public lectures in five towns. Regular study courses in Theosophy go on in Brussels and in two provincial lodges, Antwerp and Charleroi.

As in the previous summer, a five-day seminar with video tapes of Krishnamurti's talks was organized in August

at the International Theosophical Centre in Naarden. The eight Belgian members who attended derived much benefit. About fifteen members took part in the Summer School of the Latin countries in September. Seven members attended the seminars conducted by the International President in Naarden in July on 'Human Regeneration'.

There was an increase in the number of members after a decrease through many years, and membership totalled 135 at the end of the year.

DR H. VAN DER HECHT
General Secretary

BRAZIL

The activities of the lodges and study groups in Brazil are developing well, with public meetings, seminars and study courses. We have a total of 953 active members.

In January a summer school was held in Brasilia with the International President as the chief guest. The subject was *Light on the Path*. A seminar and workshop were held in Sao Paulo in July on the subject 'The New Ancient Wisdom'. The workshop was organized by the Theosophical Research Centre.

We have embarked on a programme of publishing important theosophical books

in Portuguese, including *The Key to Theosophy*, *Ancient Wisdom and Modern Insight* by Shirley Nicholson; *Foundations of Esoteric Philosophy*, compiled by Ianthe Hoskins; *Gayatri* by I. K. Taimni, and *The Doctrine of the Heart*, *The Theosophic Life*, and *Revelation, Inspiration, Observation*, all three by Annie Besant.

Our publishing house has been registered as an independent legal entity. The book department has been offering on special sale the *Collected Writings of HPB*.

MR ULISSES RIEDEL DE RESENDE
General Secretary

CANADA

No report

CHILE

Public meetings are held in Santiago, our headquarters, every Saturday from March to December, which also include discussions. New members are given copies of *The Path of Service* by G. S. Arundale and *At the Feet of the Master* as a gift, along with message by Mrs Radha Burnier.

A study course on Theosophy was held during October-November around the theme 'Ancient Wisdom: Modern Insight of Life'. The Section library in Santiago has been active. Our quarterly journal was published regularly. We have received

some subscriptions from other countries.

In Valparaiso city, there were similar activities, but with less frequency.

We added several video tapes to our collection, including two on Krishna-murti. In June there was a course on meditation for new members by Perla Ramirez. Our vice-president attended Krotona School during May-June. We are revising our Section rules. We now have a new Tea Room Saloon for members to get together.

MR MAURICIO FROIMOVICH
General Secretary

COLOMBIA

Weekly public lectures continue without interruption and with very good attendance. Recorded tapes of the lectures are sent to upcountry lodges to help their study.

We have study courses on important theosophical subjects, taking care that members go deep in their studies, and

learn to conduct new groups.

Our section journal *Seleccion Teosofica* is published monthly, with articles selected by Mr Walter Ballesteros, who has been editor since 1952.

MR GABRIEL BURGOS S.
General Secretary

CUBA

Activities go on steadily in Cuba. In Havana meetings are held daily from Monday to Saturday and on Sunday there are two meetings in which several lodges participate. In other cities weekly meetings are held. All have programmes based on theosophical literature. Two inter-lodges meetings were held in Havana, in June and August. All the theosophical anniversaries were celebrated.

Our annual convention in January was

held in a fraternal atmosphere, on the theme 'An Insight into the Nature of the Mind'. The closing session featured a panel discussion on 'Development of the Higher Mind'.

We have a separate reserve fund for remittance of dues to Adyar when it becomes possible.

DR LUIS MANUEL CELEMA DELGADO
General Secretary

ENGLAND

At the annual election in April, the General Secretary, Miss Ianthe Hoskins, was returned to office, and we welcomed David Robertson to the Treasurership.

In June our dedicated and well-loved accountant, George Hooper, retired to the west country with his wife Madge, after seventeen years of devoted service.

The summer school, with the theme of 'The Mysteries of Existence', was held in the University of Nottingham. Earlier, five members had attended the President's seminars at Naarden.

Throughout the year, the Executive Committee have given their attention to the need to make the best use of the Society's assets, especially its properties, and important steps have been taken in

that direction. However, rumours of sales are premature.

The work of the Headquarters and of the lodges continues steadily with the help of the limited number of workers. Membership remains more or less stationary, as the 200 or so new members are offset by a similar number lost by death, resignation or lapsing.

The Quest Bookshop has now completed the computerization of the stock, and the Publishing House has brought out a new edition of *Foundations of Esoteric Philosophy*. C.W. Leadbeater's *Chakras* maintains its position at the top of the sales list.

MISS IANTHE H. HOSKINS
General Secretary

FINLAND

At the annual convention in Kreivila, 19-20 May, a meeting of all lodges and study-groups was held to plan future work. The summer school took place from 22-29 June on the theme 'The Golden Stairs' with the International President as guest speaker. About 90

members attended and the atmosphere was very inspiring. In the afternoons group discussions were held on the theme.

Public lectures were held as usual every week in Helsinki and once or twice a month in other cities around Finland. Sixteen members attended the seminars

in Naarden. In the last week of August a weekend post-seminar session was held in Kreivila on the theme 'Human Regeneration'.

Our journal *Teosofi* is issued bi-monthly. Two books were translated into Finnish and brought out during the year: *Seek Out the Way* by Rohit Mehta and *This Dynamic Universe* (essays on Fohat) by the Theosophical Research Centre in London.

We participated in 'Open-Doors-Days'

with other theosophical movements a few times, discussing the common heritage such as 'The Masters and the Theosophical Movement'.

We have twenty lodges and four study groups, most of them active. The chairmen of lodges and study groups held three meetings, once at the home of the General Secretary and twice in Kreivila.

MRS KIRSTI ELO
General Secretary

FRANCE

Lectures and study classes are going on in the twenty active lodges in the country. We lost 72 members during the year, and now have a total of 839.

After our National Convention, a meeting was held to review the Section rules. It was decided to elect Council members by postal ballot and restrict the period in office of the General Secretary to two three-year terms.

We had contacts with some people in the East European countries, such as Rumania, and a committee was formed to help them and send books, magazines, etc.

Some of our members attended the seminars organized in Naarden during the European visit of our International President. The President spent a few days in Paris and gave two much appreciated lectures. In September about forty

French members participated in the summer school in Glion, Switzerland.

Our magazine *Le Lotus Bleu* completed a hundred years and a special issue was brought out to mark the Centenary.

There is good news from Togo, the only French-speaking country in Africa where the TS is officially recognized. They have started construction of a Theosophical Centre for the French-speaking African members with the help of some European French-speaking members. They have brought out a quarterly magazine *Le Sentier* which is sent or given to people in Africa, and plan to organize a meeting of French-speaking members from different parts of Africa in 1991.

MRS FRANCOISE CARACOSTEA
General Secretary

GERMANY

The German Section has a membership of 256. A great variety of subjects were studied by lodges and study groups. Apart from study of classic theosophical literature, special interest was focused on *Ancient Wisdom: Modern Insight* by

Shirley Nicholson. The German translation of this book was published by the German Adyar Publishing House.

Many well-attended public lectures were delivered by Mary Anderson, Siegfried Ebersbach, Helmut Ripprich, Anneliese

Stephan and myself, to mention but a few of the many members engaged in this work. Introduction to Theosophy courses were held by a number of lodges.

The annual convention, attended by more than a hundred members, had the theme 'Our Responsibility', and the participants spent an inspiring and harmonious week together with the International President, Mrs Radha Burnier, who was the Guest of Honour. Her several addresses brought inspiration and understanding to us. She also gave a moving account of her visit to Moscow and Leningrad.

The spring and autumn weekend study meetings, organized regularly for the northern and southern parts of Germany,

again proved successful. The General Secretary visited a number of lodges and study groups.

The fourth German School of Theosophy in Odenwald was led by Mary Anderson, Gerda Hofer and Anneliese Stephan when the participants spent an active and instructive week in a very harmonious atmosphere.

Our journal *Adyar* continues to have more than 300 non-member subscribers and helps to spread Theosophy. The lending library for German and English books as well as the cassette library are well used.

MRS EVA MAAS
General Secretary

GREECE

No report

ICELAND

The work in the section has proceeded in the Reykjavik headquarters in much the same way as before. A variety of programmes were held regularly during the week from October on to White Lotus Day, which traditionally marks the end of the winter programme.

Public meetings were held on Friday evenings, a short lecture followed by discussion on Saturday afternoons, meditation sessions on Monday evenings and a course on meditation for the public on Thursday evenings. Tuesday evenings, young members conduct a study group. The library was open on Sundays for reading and listening to tapes.

Four lodges were active outside Reyk-

javik, with meetings either monthly or twice a month.

The International President visited us early August and conducted a four-day programme of lectures and discussions.

The annual summer school was held late June with no foreign guest speaker this time. *Gangleri*, the Section magazine, was published fall and spring, each 96 pages, for the 1,300 subscribers. The section newsletter *Mundilfari* was published four times during the year. No books were published, but some reprints are scheduled for the coming year.

There was a slight increase in membership, totalling 453 by year-end.

MR EINAR ADALSTEINSSON
General Secretary

INDIA

During the year under report considerable attention was paid to the preparations to celebrate the Indian Section's Centenary. An invitation made to the international society to hold the annual International Convention at the Indian Section headquarters at Varanasi was accepted. This involved a great deal of planning and effort.

Although Theosophy began to make an impact on the Indian mind from 1879 onwards when the Founders arrived in Bombay, the Indian Section was chartered only on 17 November 1890.

As part of the centenary celebration, it was decided to adopt measures to intensify the study of Theosophy and spread it more widely. Five attractive-looking folders, giving preliminary information on Theosophy and the Society, were printed in large numbers and distributed through Lodges in India. Some of them were translated into Indian languages. Several more introductory pamphlets are under preparation. The need for more serious study and the importance of living the theosophical life were emphasized through the columns of *The Indian Theosophist*. A special issue of this monthly journal was dedicated to the teaching of former President N. Sri Ram, one of the most eminent members of the Section.

A volume containing the Besant Lectures delivered at the Section's annual conventions after her birth centenary in 1947 was brought out. These lectures given by eminent persons in various walks of life set forth before the public the great ideals and philosophical teachings of India.

The birth centenary of Sri Ram was celebrated throughout the Section. Several study camps were based on his

writings. The first of these was a week-long camp in October 1989 at the Headquarters, directed by the International President, Mrs Radha Burnier.

Apart from the preparations for the centenary, normal work went on throughout the Section. National and regional lecturers continued their tours of lodges and a number of study camps were held in different places.

The International President and Vice-President spared time in the midst of their very busy schedule to attend annual conferences of federations and inspire members. The Vice-President also conducted study camps in Delhi, Bombay and Bhavnagar. In addition to presiding over the annual sessions of the U.P. and Marathi Federations, I undertook tours of the Tamil and Gujarati Federations and conducted three study camps. Five other Federations were also visited by me for shorter durations.

There was an increase of 395 in our membership, which stood at 10,328 at the end of the year. Although it is not possible to mention every one of the 82 members who passed away, we have to pay tribute to the memory of two stalwarts—Mr C. R. N. Swamy and Mrs Seetha Neelakantan—and two of the oldest members: Dr N. Sivakamu (sister of Sri Ram) and Miss Joan Morris, both born in the nineteenth century. Miss Morris came from Canada and gave unstinting service to the Indian Section for a number of years, setting an example of devotion and self-sacrifice.

Let us consider seriously the following words of Madam Blavatsky (appearing in her Third Message to the American Section):

See and realize what great results can be achieved by those who are really in earnest and unite unselfishly to work for humanity. Let this year's outcome show you in unmistakable signs the weighty responsibility that rests upon you, not only towards the Society, but towards the whole of Humanity. Therefore do not for one moment relax in your efforts; press closer, shoulder to shoulder, every day; stand together as one man, come what may, fine weather or storm, and the victory of the cause to which you have pledged yourselves is certain.

There is no finite goal and our endeavour can never come to an end. This is so because the Divine Wisdom which

we are trying to understand and disseminate 'is infinite in its extent and unfathomable in depth'. The understanding has to be intellectual to start with. Such an understanding will make our lives happier and purposeful but not necessarily spiritual. The Society exists to help people to lead a spiritual life which is based on the principles of purity and selflessness. It is not possible for me to define spiritual life but the term certainly implies realizing that we are 'a Spirit or a centre in Divine Consciousness'. All this only goes to show that although we have embarked upon a seemingly endless journey, and there is no other path to go, it is possible for us to tread it successfully.

DR C. V. AGARWAL
General Secretary

INDONESIA

We carried on the usual and routine weekly gatherings with discussions, lectures, group meditations, healing sessions, etc. but there were no special activity except for the annual convention. This was held 24-26 May at Bandungan, a mountain resort in Central Java, attended by eighty members from fourteen lodges and sympathisers. The theme was 'Love—The Basis for Universal Brotherhood'.

Most of our younger members are unfamiliar with the English language, but

unfortunately there are not enough competent translators. There is a shortage of lecturers and writers, too. No less important is the question of bringing in new members especially when the number of our old members is decreasing. Many youngsters, however, are more interested in spiritual movements that promise quick results. We have formed a Research and Development Department to tackle the problems.

MR H. M. SOESISWO
General Secretary

ITALY

The work of the Section and of the lodges went on fairly well on an intellectual level, but not so satisfactorily on the theosophical level, perhaps on account of lack of knowledge of Theosophy in spite of many books published in Italian. There

is a certain incapacity to understand the universal approach of the TS and its importance for the well-being of mankind, and present theosophical teachings from the point of view of application in everyday life.

The highlight of the year was the visit of the International President Mrs Radha Burnier who lectured in the lodges of Florence, Turin and Milan from August 18 to 28. Despite it being the holiday season, there were good audiences at all her lectures, and reports were made in the press and radio.

The 76th National Convention was held in Castrocaro 24-27 May with about a hundred members present, on the theme 'How to Promote Theosophical Thought and Awaken the Inner Self'. Sixteen lecturers spoke at the Convention.

Our journal *Rivista Italiana di Teosofia* was published regularly and has 1,200 subscribers, an increase of one hundred during the year. We published the fifth

edition of Chatterji's *The Esoteric Philosophy of India* and the third edition of Dr Besant's *Thought Power*.

Several members of our Section participated in the Seminar at Naarden and the Summer Schools in Germany and Switzerland. We held the fifth Seminar on Theosophy 16-20 September in Venice on the theme 'Meditation: What Is It?' The General Secretary visited and lectured in several Italian cities.

Because of lapses in payment of dues, membership was reduced to 1,095. Some of the lapsed members will perhaps pay their dues later. The number of lodges now totals 45.

MR EDOARDO BRATINA
General Secretary

MEXICO

During 1990 the Mexican Section was able to maintain a steady growth and active work among the members, thus attaining the following results for this period: 12 lodges and 20 study groups. The increase of new members is 40, reaching a total of 300 and representing all active members, even though our statistics show approximately 380. The difference is due to the inconstancy of certain members.

The Department of Education maintained the publication of the magazine *Unidad* at 500 copies bimonthly, and the correspondence course increased from 450 to 600 persons.

The work of the Theosophical Order of Service and the Round Table has been kept up.

We had four Regional Seminars in different cities of the Mexican Republic.

The Annual Convention was held from September 7 to 9 in Puebla, where the new General Secretary for 1991-1993, Brother Carlos Lopez Cerdan Ripoll was elected.

The national headquarters was transferred to Mexico City, D.F., on 10 September of 1990.

At the beginning of 1990, Brother Walter Ballesteros visited the Mexican Section, giving lectures to the public and to the members of Puebla.

The Mexican Section participated in the seminar held in Naarden, Holland, in July, directed by the International President, Mrs Radha Burnier.

A group of members will participate in the 115th Annual Convention of 1990 in Varanasi, India.

MR ISAAC JAULI DAVILA
General Secretary

MYANMAR (BURMA)

No report

NETHERLANDS

The Section helped actively in making a success of the two seminars on Human Regeneration held in July at the International Theosophical Centre in Naarden by Mrs Radha Burnier. Many of our members attended the meetings. There was a real brotherly atmosphere during these days. This was followed by a one-day convention of the Dutch Section when Mrs Burnier was the guest speaker.

Separate conventions of the northern and southern regions were held on 16 and 23 September when talks were given on the essential work of the TS, followed by discussion.

The publication programme and the work of the bookshop are going on very satisfactorily. Our journal *Theosophia* is

published six times a year, with every number during the year having its own theme. The library had a very active year. We are in the process of revising our rules.

An autumn weekend was held at Naarden on Cosmic Order and two meetings with lodge committees were meant to reinforce the links with the headquarters. The spring weekend, also held at Naarden, was only for members when the General Secretary discussed *The Secret Doctrine* in seven meetings.

We are strengthening our cooperation with the International Theosophical Centre at Naarden by holding meetings every two months.

DR W. H. VAN VLEDDER
General Secretary

NEW ZEALAND

Our lodges, branches and study centres were busy during the year meeting the challenge of increased public interest in the ideas of Theosophy. Our membership continues to increase, by 47 during the year, making a total of 1,822. We have study groups in a dozen lodges in outlying areas. These groups are offered visiting speakers, literature, suitcase books and video tapes. Other activities go on as usual.

Diana Dunningham-Chapotin was guest-speaker at our annual convention. Her husband Michel's slide presentation gave an interesting glimpse of the past.

Educational activities continue to grow including the Cassette Centre, Slide Library and Video Library. Jack Patterson's *Probing the Mysteries of Existence* continues to be popular and is being translated into Dutch, German, Polish and Spanish.

Edited versions are also being used in America and Britain. Our journal *Theosophy in New Zealand*, produced by Mr Gavin Laurie, is a great advertisement for the Society.

A well-attended Easter Camp was held on the theme 'Health and Healing', with several workshop sessions, including one by a local naturopath. Philip Harris from Australia toured the Section giving talks and conducting seminars in most of our lodges.

While the ideas of Theosophy continue to draw members of the public, it is vitally important that our message be presented in a professional manner. This seems to include visual back-up and as much audience participation as possible.

MR WILLIAM W. JOHNSTONE
General Secretary

NORWAY

No report

PHILIPPINES

Our work with the public increased during the year. While progress in this activity is firm and growing, it is still slow in view of the lack of people who can handle its diverse facets.

The Theosophical Digest continues to be the main vehicle of our public dissemination programme, with circulation increasing to 10,000 copies. Many copies are purchased in bulk by individual donors for sending to libraries and schools. Such donation purchases numbered about 2,000 copies per issue. It is interesting to note that a growing number of convents, seminaries and nuns are among subscribers. The journal has also been instrumental in the formation of provincial study groups. Two new study groups were formed in Davao and Bacolod cities, in southern and central Philippines—areas where theosophical work has been weak.

In January 1990 we launched a new project, the Peace Library and Research Centre, using a portion of our existing library, to serve as a disseminator and initiator of practicable peace strategies. At present the Peace Library has linkages with fifty organizations abroad and regularly receives magazines and materials from many of them.

Two public seminars—on Introductory Theosophy and an Intermediate Course—were conducted during the year.

The book *Light of the Sanctuary: The Occult Diary of Geoffrey Hodson* has gone into a second printing. Another book by Mr Hodson, *Yogic Ascent to Spiritual Heights* is in the press, scheduled for release early next year. Five hundred copies of *Studies in The Secret Doctrine* by Dr Corona Trew were printed, primarily for use by study groups and individuals. *The Causal Body* by A. E. Powell is another book to be published. The Section also has plans to bring out a chronologically arranged edition of the Mahatma Letters with annotations by Virginia Hanson. It is hoped that this edition will encourage more Theosophists to study the Mahatma Letters.

The Section has continuously reprinted leaflets that introduce Theosophy to the public. We also plan printing a series of reading materials to be called Theosophical Readings which will be distributed to the public through bus stations and other public places.

Book sales have increased tremendously. Fifteen individuals are enrolled in our correspondence course. The library has drawn many students, enquirers and researchers in Metro Manila area.

MR VICENTE HAO CHIN JR.
General Secretary

PORTUGAL

The Portuguese Section worked well during the year along traditional lines with public lectures and symposia at the headquarters every fortnight and lodge

meetings every week. Lodges continued to hold public meetings, and several of them conducted study courses on Theosophy and Meditation.

Many of our members and more than a hundred Spanish members attended the Thirteenth Iberian Theosophical Week held at Fatima, Portugal. The theme was 'What is Life?' and we did good work in a fraternal atmosphere.

We now have 12 lodges with a total membership of 281.

After a difficult period, we resumed publication of our quarterly journal

Teosofico and hope to issue it regularly in the future.

The most important event during the year was the visit of our International President in August. She gave two well-attended public lectures and visited some lodges. It was an unforgettable joy to to have her visit us and we are grateful for this privilege.

DR MARIA G. NOBRE SANTOS
General Secretary

PUERTO RICO

The Puerto Rican Section sponsored the Fourth Theosophical Seminar of the Caribbean Basin in the first week of December 1989 at Caracas, Venezuela. The conference was attended by members from several countries, including Mexico, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Colombia, Dominican Republic, USA and Puerto Rico.

During the nights of the conference a Theosophical School of the Caribbean Basin was also conducted by senior members from Mexico and Puerto Rico. The syllabus included *The Secret Doctrine*, study of TS international rules and the social problems of mankind.

It was decided to hold the fifth Caribbean Basin conference in San José, Costa Rica, in February 1992 along with another

session of the theosophical school for the area.

Reconstruction of the headquarters building is in progress with a loan from the U.S. Small Business Administration and we hope to finish the same by December 1990.

The Atma Lodge in the Dominican Republic, the only one there, which was attached to Adyar was transferred to the Puerto Rican Section. Subsequently, theosophical activities there have increased. Up to now four study groups have been formed there in different locations, and four more are being organized.

MR ARAMIS LOPEZ
General Secretary

SPAIN

The Spanish Section now has 319 members in 13 lodges and some study groups. The work in the lodges is carried on regularly.

We have some problems too. A dissident group is occupying one of our premises. In 1922 a friend of the TS donated a large property of about 500 hectares in Alicante. This was appropriated at the time the TS was banned in Spain after

the civil war. When the TS was made legal again, we started a long court process to get the property, but it is a great financial burden. When we get back the property, we have plans to build a Centre of Theosophical Studies in Europe as well as a haven for retired members.

Our monthly journal *Sophia* carries in every issue important theosophical

material including Watch-Tower notes from *The Theosophist* and is sent to members and non-members in many countries.

We have founded a Theosophical Publishing House and some devoted members are translating and printing books with desktop publishing equipment. We have seven books in the market and the next one will be a new translation of *The Mahatma Letters to A.P. Sinnett*, with help from the Non-English Publications Fund.

SRI LANKA

Despite the prevailing unusual conditions, there was some improvement in our work, but only in Colombo, where we held eleven meetings with an average attendance of 23.

Communication with lodges outside Colombo is not normal and several are completely cut off.

SWEDEN

Six of our lodges have been active, with many lectures on various theosophical themes, study groups on *Light on the Path* and *The Secret Doctrine*, and a course in Basic Theosophy. We have a total of 206 members in Sweden.

About 35 members participated in the summer school, with Mrs Radha Burnier as guest speaker, complemented by a course on *Light on the Path*. Twenty-five members participated in a mini-school to study *The Secret Doctrine*. Two members attended the European School of Theosophy in Spain. Seven members participated in the seminars at Naarden in July.

The European School of Theosophy was held last October with attendance from different countries. At Easter we celebrated the 'Iberian Days' with our brothers from Portugal. There were 150 members from both countries. In August the International President, Mrs Radha Burnier, conducted a seminar on 'Some Teachings of the Mahatmas' with an attendance of about a hundred members.

DR ANGEL RUBIO
General Secretary

Members in Colombo also meet in their residences every two or three weeks to discuss different aspects of theosophical teachings. A small group spent five days in the Jesuit Retreat in Kandy in meditation and reflection, which proved very beneficial.

MR EDMUND P. SILVA
General Secretary

Twenty-three members attended a mini-school in June with G. Gautama of Adyar as guest speaker. Most of the time, participants worked in small groups probing into the way to live a more conscious life.

New members are sent monthly introductory letters on Theosophy, for a period of twelve months to begin with. The turnover in the bookshop has increased.

We translated and published *The Foundations of Esoteric Philosophy* compiled by Ianthe Hoskins.

MRS ING-BRITT WIKLUND
General Secretary

SWITZERLAND

Following many difficult years during which our Section declined and lost quite a few members, we have given it a new impulsion and are currently living through a phase of restructuring our activities. Our initial preoccupation was to recruit new members. So in order to make our Section known, we wisely opened the doors of our lodges and as a result, the number of our members increased from 88 in 1989 to 154 in 1990. These new members mainly came from the French-speaking part of Switzerland and meet at our Swiss headquarters located in Geneva.

All our best efforts were also put on creating new and diversified theosophical activities. For example, at the beginning of the year, only one lodge was functioning in Geneva. Since then, 4 new lodges

have been created and all are successful. To these lodges, we have added 3 meditation groups and one group studying Egyptology. From January 1991, we will offer twice a month a new basic course of Theosophy, addressed to all our new members.

This year, our Section also organized the Summer School of the French-speaking countries, which was held from 1 to 8 September in Glion, above Montreux. Our summer school was a great success.

As for the future, our deepest wish is that the new impulse given to our Section should continue to rest on solid ground and our new members advance steadily on the theosophical path.

MME ELIANE GAILLARD
General Secretary

U. S. A.

Once again, thanks to the generous support of the Annual Fund by members, we have had another active year of field-work. In ten months, 244 speeches were given by twenty lecturers who travelled and visited local groups. A recent survey indicated that the speaker programme, which provides a vital link between the headquarters and local groups, is one of our most appreciated programmes. A total of 109 members attended one of eight regional training sessions. Spiritual retreats were stressed in the past year.

New study guides were created and materials were developed to help members and groups explore the annual theme of personal transformation.

Support was also given to both *The Quest* magazine and Eternal Quest Radio and TV series to strengthen public awareness/recognition of the TS. Radio/TV

programmes were distributed to stations across the U.S. and have also been packaged for store sales.

Eighteen persons were enrolled in correspondence courses and some 1,800 new member letters are sent out monthly.

The Department of Education sponsors public programmes—including Thursday evening lectures and weekend workshops—on a wide variety of topics related to the theosophical worldview. Attendance has varied from about 30 to almost 100, and Saturday workshops have drawn 65-185 participants. Press coverage increased during the year. The Department of Information answered nearly 1,500 letters and distributed over 17,000 leaflets. There was some decline in sales at TPH. Membership also registered a decrease, and was 5,287 at the end of September 1990.

The Olcott Library registered an

increase in its work. It added 172 books, 25 videos and 54 audios to its holdings.

Reader response to *The Quest* has been overwhelmingly positive and total circulation reached the 20,000 mark—a four-fold increase in the year.

The Prison Programme continues to offer free, slightly damaged books to inmates and prison libraries. The prison newsletter, *The Light Within* is published quarterly and reaches nearly 700 inmates.

A detailed master index of *The Mahatma Letters* has been completed. It contains a total of over 10,000 index items. It is hoped that this work can help rekindle the original wisdom that came from the Adepts who are the real inner founders of the Theosophical Society.

We received over half a million dollars in grants from the Kern Foundation, without whose support the TS in America would be unable to carry out many of its programmes and offer the same level of support to members.

The theosophical worldview and our basic propositions are not just beautiful concepts. It is our task to translate them into a dynamic force in our lives. Today, they still await the evolution in human consciousness that would activate their potency as agents of change. Action, powerful, transformative action, can come out of the collective realization of these ancient truths by our members.

MRS DOROTHY ABBENHOUSE
General Secretary

URUGUAY

No report

WALES

Several groups are making progress in studying texts, both ancient and modern. There is improved attendance at public meetings, stimulating discussions and more enquiries to lodges.

Overhauling of the headquarters Library is in progress including recataloguing.

MR ROBERT M. PETERS
General Secretary

YUGOSLAVIA

There was an increase in membership in the Yugoslav Section which now stands at 67. All three lodges in Slovenia and the group in Croatia hold regular weekly meetings. Study classes were on *Self-Culture* (by I. K. Taimni) and *The Foundations of Esoteric Philosophy*.

Our annual convention was held in June and attended by 31 members. Miss

Mary Anderson, Secretary of the European Federation, visited us twice and gave well-attended public lectures. Another visiting lecturer was Mr Hans Nickl from Austria. In August we had the privilege of a visit by Mrs Radha Burnier, International President, who gave three well-attended public lectures—one in Koper and two in Ljubljana.

We translated and published *The Voice of the Silence* and *At the Feet of the Master*, and in both cases 1,000-copy editions were sold out in three months.

In August we held a summer school

with 26 participants on the theme 'Through Inner Revolution of the Individual to the Regeneration of the World'.

MR ANTON JESSE
General Secretary

REPORTS OF REGIONAL SECRETARIES

AFRICA, WEST

A highlight of the year was the setting up of a Fieldwork Training Scheme to be financed through members' voluntary contributions. Dr Kwadwo A. Tutu and Mr Isaac K. Zaney will prepare programmes and training methods to improve the efficiency of theosophical workers. The Organizing Secretary and Dr Tutu visited various lodges and held discussions on TS work in addition to giving public lectures. Lodges and centres held regular study classes.

There was a decline in membership because of lapses, largely due to economic problems. However, with 18 lodges and a total membership of 325, the West African region is well qualified to become a Section and a resolution was adopted at the 35th annual convention held in April to apply to Adyar for a Section Charter. The convention also decided to establish

a limited liability company to run a theosophical bookshop.

We have plans for an extensive publicity work in 1991 through information leaflets on Theosophy, karma, reincarnation, etc.

Two week-end seminars were held, one at the University of Science and Technology in Kumasi and the other at the Secondary School in Kpando. Attendance at both seminars was satisfactory and the talks were followed by lively discussions.

The prolonged civil war in Liberia has affected TS work in Monrovia's Slater Lodge. Despite the sudden drop in membership during the year we hold an optimistic view about the growth of the TS in West Africa in the years ahead.

MR PAUL B. KWAKYI
Organizing Secretary

CANADIAN FEDERATION

No report

IRELAND, NORTHERN

Our programme of public activities in the form of talks and discussions was inspiring and comprehensive during the year. Study classes concentrated on Theosophy and Yoga. Attendance has improved since we moved to new premises in Hillsborough Drive. Most of the

talks were given by our own members.

The forty-first annual convention was well attended, with visitors from Dublin and the Netherlands also taking part. The tape library continues to be popular.

MRS MARIE HENRY
Organizing Secretary

REPORTS OF PRESIDENTIAL REPRESENTATIVES

ASIA, SOUTH-EAST

No report

BOLIVIA

Theosophical activities during the year included weekly meetings and study classes. In La Paz an increasing number of youngsters are attending our meetings.

In August a national summer school

was held in Cochabamba with an attendance of over forty members.

We have a good interchange with the Argentine Section. Several of our members attended the winter school in Argentina.

MR MARIO CARIAGA ARAMAYO
Presidential Representative

DENMARK

No report

IRELAND

Our public and lodge meetings are being held regularly and we have a number of new members, all showing a keen interest.

Miss Ianthe Hoskins gave a two-day seminar in Dublin last April and in August we had the privilege of a visit by the International President, Mrs Radha Burnier, who addressed both a public meeting and a meeting for members. Among those attending were five members from Northern Ireland, who came from Belfast. Our links with the North were renewed some years ago, with Dr Hugh

Shearman giving talks every year, but now our links are even stronger. From being an isolated and insular group of people we are becoming well aware of universal brotherhood in its true sense.

In July I attended the seminar on 'Human Regeneration' conducted by Mrs Burnier in Naarden. Toward the end of this year we have planned a workshop with Mr Alan Senior and Mrs Margaret Senior, Presidential Representative in Scotland.

MRS WIN WOODS
Presidential Representative

PAKISTAN

The main work of the Society continues steadily at Karachi where the membership is over 130. The Karachi Lodge holds weekly study classes and occasional lectures and commemorates special days. It has a large and beautiful building with

an auditorium, a large public library with more than 10,000 books for lending and an extensive TOS programme.

Unfortunately, due to wide disturbances in the city of Hyderabad for the past two years, the activities of the Besant

Lodge there have come almost to a standstill. Although the lodge has more than 70 members on the roll, there is no significant leadership to improve these conditions.

A small lodge of about ten members exists at Quetta, but activities take place only when I visit the city. At Lahore there are a few members and there is a

potential for developing this centre into a good lodge.

An additional lodge at Karachi called Jamshednagar Lodge also carries on separate activities.

There is a great need of workers who can give more time to our activities.

MRS GOOL K. MINWALLA
Presidential Representative

PERU

In October 1989 the undersigned was appointed as Presidential Representative in Peru by the International President. We are framing new rules accordingly and effecting institutional reorganization; also making efforts to develop the work.

We moved into new quarters in downtown Lima donated by a member. However, it needs repairs and we hope to be settled in the new premises in September 1990.

There were several public lectures and a mini-course on Theosophy during the year. Economic problems forced suspension of our journal, so we are issuing instead a mimeographed newsletter to members. Study groups took up Annie Besant's *The Pedigree of Man* and *At the Feet of the Master*.

MR JULIO GERARDO POMAR
Presidential Representative

SCOTLAND

The two main centres in Scotland, Glasgow and Edinburgh, have continued to attract new members. There are now 156 members, 24 of them enrolled during the year. Aberdeen, in the north, now has a small 'interested group'. At Glasgow members concentrated on members' meetings where they have study, discussion and meditation, while in Edinburgh there are varied activities.

A Glasgow member attended the European School of Theosophy held in Spain during October 1989. Delegates were also sent to the seminars at Naarden and the English Summer School. The Spring/Summer sessions in Edinburgh

and Glasgow include various meditational outdoor events of historical and esoteric interest. These are often attended by TS members from abroad.

The libraries in Glasgow and Edinburgh are well patronized by members as well as the public. The magazine *Circles* continues to be published twice a year and is sent all round the world.

A series of Art and Sculpture exhibitions were held at the Glasgow TS Centre which attracted visitors from many places including dignitaries.

MRS MARGARET T. SENIOR
Presidential Representative

VENEZUELA

No report

REPORTS OF FEDERATIONS

EUROPEAN FEDERATION

No report

INDO-PACIFIC FEDERATION

No report

INTER-AMERICAN FEDERATION

No report

WORLD THEOSOPHICAL YOUTH FEDERATION

No report

REPORTS OF LODGES ATTACHED TO ADYAR

COMILLA (BANGLADESH)

Bangladesh has only one theosophical lodge in the town of Comilla, founded in 1889. This lodge has a building of its own in the centre of the town. We have 36 members who meet regularly every

week and discuss a variety of subjects. We also hold special meetings to mark theosophical anniversaries.

REV. D. R. MAHATHERO
President

CAMEROON

No report

HONG KONG

No report

TEL-AVIV (ISRAEL)

During the year we hired a hall in a central place in Tel Aviv to hold our fortnightly meetings. A one-day seminar on Regeneration and Inner Transformation was held in October 1990 attended by about 70 participants. Our regular activities continue, such as weekly members' meetings, a monthly *Secret Doctrine* lesson, giving talks on The-

osophy in other spiritual groups, and publication of our bi-monthly magazine *Or* (light).

We also organized three courses which we plan to run regularly—Introductory Course on Theosophy, Advanced Course of Theosophy, and Spiritual Astrology.

Another activity started in August 1990 is a monthly meeting for study and meditation early in the morning in a wood about 30 km. from Tel Aviv. The one-day seminar mentioned above was held in

the same wood, in an atmosphere of joy and harmony.

Our membership increased by seven to a total of thirty during the year.

ABRAHAM ORON

President

TOKYO AND OKASA (JAPAN)

The first volume of the Japanese translation of *The Secret Doctrine* was brought out in the autumn of 1989 and was sold out in four months—an indication of the great interest in Theosophy and Madame Blavatsky in Japan. We are grateful for the generous financial support for its publication from the Non-English

Publications Fund and the TS in Australia and New Zealand.

Health problems of Mrs Emiko Tanaka slowed the work in Japan. Even so, the translation of the second volume of *SD* and other works is going forward, and Lodge work continues in Tokyo and Osaka.

(Unsigned)

KOREA

No report

MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION
RULES AND REGULATIONS

DIRECTORY 1991

AND

MINUTES

OF THE MEETINGS OF THE

GENERAL COUNCIL

THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

MEMORANDUM
OF
ASSOCIATION, ETC.

CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION

No. 2 of 1905

I hereby certify, pursuant to Act XXI of 1860 of the Governor-General of India in Council entitled 'An Act for the Registration of Literary, Scientific and Charitable Societies, 1860', that The Theosophical Society is duly incorporated as a Society under the aforesaid Act.



(Sd) A. PERIYASWAMI MOODALIAR
Registrar of Joint Stock Companies

Station, Madras
Dated 3rd April 1905

THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

FOUNDED 17 NOVEMBER 1875, INCORPORATED 3 APRIL 1905

*In the matter of Act XXI 1860 of the Acts of Viceroy
and Governor-General of India in Council, being
an Act for the registration of literary,
scientific and charitable Societies*

and

IN THE MATTER OF THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION

1. The name of the Association is The Theosophical Society.

2. The objects for which the Society is established are:

I. To form a nucleus of the Universal Brotherhood of Humanity, without distinction of race, creed, sex, caste or colour.

II. To encourage the study of Comparative Religion, Philosophy and Science.

III. To investigate unexplained laws of Nature and the powers latent in man.

(a) The holding and management of all funds raised for the above objects.

(b) The purchase or acquisition on lease or in exchange or on hire or by

gift or otherwise of any real or personal property, and any rights or privileges necessary or convenient for the purposes of the Society.

(c) The sale, improvement, management and development of all or any part of the property of the Society.

(d) The doing of all such things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of the above objects or any of them, including the founding and maintenance of a library or libraries.

3. The names, addresses and occupations of the persons who are members of, and form the first General Council which is the governing body of the Society, are as follows:

GENERAL COUNCIL

Ex-Officio

President-Founder:—H. S. Olcott, Adyar, Madras, Author.

Vice-President:—A. P. Sinnett, London, England, Author.

Recording Secretary:—Hon. Sir S. Subramania Aiyar, Madras, Justice of the High Court.

Treasurer:—W. A. English, M.D., Adyar, Madras, Retired Physician.

Alexander Fullerton, General Secretary, American Section, 7, West 8th St., New York.

Upendra Nath Basu, B.A., LL.B., General Secretary, Indian Section, Benares, U.P.

Bertram Keightley, M.A., General Secretary, British Section, 28, Albemarle St., London, W.

W. G. John, General Secretary, Australasian Section, 42, Margaret Street, Sydney, N.S.W.

Arvid Knos, General Secretary, Scandinavian Section, Engelbrechtsgatan, 7, Stockholm, Sweden.

C. W. Sanders, General Secretary, New Zealand Section, Queen Street, Auckland, New Zealand.

W. B. Fricke, General Secretary, Netherlands Section, 76, Amsteldijk, Amsterdam.

Th. Pascal, M.D., General Secretary, French Section, 59, Avenue de la Bourdonnais, Paris.

Decio Calvari, General Secretary, Italian Section, 380, Corso Umberto I., Rome.

Dr Rudolf Steiner, General Secretary, German Section, 95, Kaiserallee, Friedenau, Berlin.

Jose M. Masso, Acting General Secretary, Cuban Section, Havana, Cuba.

Additional

Annie Besant, Benares, Author, [for 3 years].

G. R. S. Mead, London, Author, [for 3 years].

Khan Bahadur Naoroji Dorabji Khandalvala, Poona, Special Judge, [for 3 years].

Dinshaw Jivaji Edal Behram, Surat, Physician, [for 2 years].

Francesca E. Arundale, Benares, Author [for 2 years]

Tammacharla Ramachandra Row, Gooty, Retired Sub-Judge, [for 1 year].

Charles Blech, Paris, France, Retired, Manufacturer, [for 1 year].

4. The Founders

Henry Steel Olcott, who with the late Helena Petrovna Blavatsky and others founded The Theosophical Society at New York, United States of America, in the year 1875, shall hold, during his lifetime, the position of President, with the title of 'President-Founder', and he shall have, alone, the authority and responsibility and shall exercise the functions provided in the Rules and Regulations for the Executive Committee, meetings of which he may call for consultation and advice as he may desire.

5. Income and property applied to promotion of objects

The income and property of the Society,

whencesoever derived, shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the objects of the Society as set forth in this Memorandum of Association, and no portion thereof shall be paid or transferred directly or indirectly by way of dividends, bonus, or otherwise by way of profits to the persons who at any time are or have been members of the Society or to any of them or to any person claiming through any of them: Provided that nothing herein contained shall prevent the payment in good faith of remuneration to any officers or servants of the Society or to any members thereof or other person in return for any services rendered to the Society.

6. Members of General Council not answerable

No member or members of the General Council shall be answerable for any loss arising in the administration or application of the said trust funds or sums of money or for any damage to or deterioration in the said trust premises unless such loss, damage or deterioration shall happen by or through his or their wilful default or neglect.

7. Vesting of Property on dissolution

If upon the dissolution of the Society there shall remain after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities any property whatsoever, the same shall not be paid to or distributed among the members of the Society or any of them but shall be given or transferred to some other Society or Association, Institution or Institutions,

Witnesses to the signatures:

(Sd.) WM GLENNY KEAGEY ...

„ ARTHUR RICHARDSON ...

„ PYARE LAL ...

„ PEROZE P. MEHERJEE ...

having objects similar to the objects of this Society, to be determined by the votes of not less than three-fifths of the members of the Society present personally or by proxy, at a meeting called for the purpose, or in default thereof by such Judge or Court of Law as may have jurisdiction in the matter.

8. Filing of Rules and Regulations, Memorandum

A copy of the Rules and Regulations of the said Theosophical Society is filed with this Memorandum of Association, and the undersigned being seven of the members of the Governing Body of the said Society do hereby certify that such copy of such Rules and Regulations of the said Theosophical Society is correct.

As witness our several and respective hands, this ... day of March 1905.

(Sd.) H.S. OLCOTT

„ W.A. ENGLISH

„ SUBRAMANIAM

„ FRANCESCA E. ARUNDALE

„ UPENDRA NATH BASU

„ ANNIE BESANT

„ N.D. KHANDALVALA

RULES AND REGULATIONS

FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF THE ASSOCIATION NAMED 'THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY', ADYAR, MADRAS

1. General Council

The General Council shall be the Governing Body of The Theosophical Society. All members of the General Council shall at all times be Fellows of the Society and not fewer than seven members of this Council shall be resident in India.

2. Members of the General Council

(a) The President, the Vice-President, the Treasurer, the Secretary and the General Secretaries of the component National Societies (otherwise called Sections) shall *ex-officio* be members of the General Council. The terms of those members of the General Council who hold office *ex-officio* shall expire with the vacation of their qualifying office.

(b) The General Council shall include not fewer than 5 and not more than 12 Additional Members, among whom all past Presidents while in good standing shall automatically have place. Other members shall on the nomination of the President be elected for a term of three years by vote of the General Council at its Annual Meeting, their names having been sent to the Members of the General Council at least three months before the Annual Meeting.

(c) Members retiring shall be eligible for re-election.

(d) The Secretary shall be the Secretary of the General Council.

3. Removal of General Council members and officers

It shall be competent for the General Council to remove any of its members, or any officer of the Society excepting the President of The Theosophical Society

and excepting the General Secretaries of National Societies, by a three-fourths majority of its whole number of members, at a special meeting called for the purpose, of which at least three months' notice shall have been given, the quorum consisting, however, of not fewer than five members.

4. Meetings of the General Council

(a) The General Council shall ordinarily meet once a year, at the time of the Annual Meeting or Convention of the Society; but a special meeting may be called at any time by the President, and a meeting shall be called at any time by him, or if not by him, by the Secretary, on the written requisition of not less than one-fourth of the total number of members; but of such special meetings not less than three months' notice shall be given, and the notice shall contain a statement of the special business to be laid before the meeting.

(b) Whenever, at any time or place, a Convention or other function of the Society shall bring together a number of members of the General Council, the President at his discretion may call such members to a meeting for the purpose of study and discussion of any matters concerning the Society that he considers appropriate to lay before them. The meeting may then forward to the President its report on such matters and may make recommendations thereon. Such meetings shall be of a consultative nature without administrative or legislative authority, or may be of a legislative nature upon the decision of the General Council taken at least one year in advance.

In the event the President does not himself attend such a meeting he may appoint the Vice-President or some other member of the General Council to preside in his stead.

The President or his Deputy shall give not less than thirty days' notice of such meeting to all members of the General Council who may be expected to be present at the function that provides occasion for the meeting, but all members of the Council shall have the right to attend.

5. Resolutions

(a) On the request of any member of the General Council any resolution or other item of business proposed by such member shall be placed on the Agenda, and circulated with brief supporting statements, for consideration at the next meeting of the General Council, provided that not less than three months' notice of such resolution or item of business shall be given to the Secretary.

(b) At all meetings of the General Council, members thereof may vote in person, or in writing, or by proxy duly given to another member of the General Council for the particular meeting concerned. Except as aforesaid no member shall exercise more than one vote. No member shall be allowed to exercise more than 5 proxy votes.

Note: Meetings include adjourned meetings.

6. Quorum

The quorum of an ordinary as well as of a special meeting of the General Council shall be five members. If there be no quorum, the meeting may be adjourned *sine die*, or the Chairman of the meeting may adjourn it to another date, of which three months' further notice shall be given, when the business of the meeting

shall be disposed of, irrespective of whether there is a quorum present or not.

7. Who Shall Preside

The President, or in his absence the Vice-President, of the Society shall preside at all meetings of The Theosophical Society or of the General Council, and shall have a casting vote in the case of an equal division of the members voting on any question before the meeting.

8. President

In the absence of the President and the Vice-President, the meeting shall elect a chairman from among the members present at the meeting, and he shall have a casting vote in the case of a tie.

9. President's term of office

The term of office of the President shall be seven years from the date of assuming office.

10. Election of President

The procedure for election to the office of President shall be as follows:

(a) Seven months before the expiration of a President's term of office, or within three days of the office becoming vacant, the Executive Committee shall appoint a special Committee consisting of three members of The Theosophical Society in good standing including the Secretary, but excluding any candidate for the office of President, to carry out the election procedure as hereinafter detailed.

This Committee shall be known as the Election Committee and shall be answerable only to the Executive Committee.

It shall be automatically dissolved on the declaration of the voting result.

(b) Immediately on its appointment, the Election Committee shall instruct

the Secretary to send out to the members of the General Council a written call for nominations for the office of President.

The call for nominations shall be sent by airmail or other expeditious means if airmail be unavailable, followed one week later by a second (duplicate) call.

(c) Any member of the Society in good standing, having been a member for at least ten consecutive years immediately preceding his nomination, may be nominated.

Each member of the General Council who is a General Secretary, shall be entitled to make three nominations and shall consult his Governing Body before making nominations.

The President shall be entitled to make three nominations.

The Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and each Additional Member of the General Council shall be entitled to make one nomination.

The nominator shall be responsible for ensuring that his nomination(s) reaches the Secretary within ten weeks of the date of the call for nomination.

The nominee shall be responsible for notifying the Secretary, within the above-mentioned period of his acceptance of nomination. One written consent shall suffice for all nominations for that nominee.

(d) At the expiration of ten weeks, the Election Committee shall place all the nominations received, together with the relevant papers, before the Executive Committee at a meeting especially convened for the purpose.

At such meeting the Executive Committee shall examine the nominations.

The three nominees having the highest number of nominations shall alone be qualified to be on the voting list, but if two (or more) nominees qualify for the

last place on the voting list, they shall both (or all) be included in the list.

No nominee shall be included in the voting list unless supported by at least twelve nominations.

The names of the nominees who thus qualify for inclusion shall be listed in alphabetical order.

This list, as finalized by the Executive Committee, shall be the voting list and shall not be subject to challenge.

However, in the event of a nominee dying or being so seriously incapacitated as to be unable to carry out the Presidential duties if elected, between the date of the call for nominations and the despatch of the voting list, the nomination procedure shall be repeated, commencing within seven days from the notification of the fact to the Secretary.

(e) The Secretary shall then immediately communicate in writing by airmail or other expeditious means (followed one week later by a second and duplicate communication) the voting list together with biographical data of the candidates in accordance with Appendix A to these Rules, to the General Secretaries, Regional Secretaries, Organizing Secretaries, and Presidential Representatives and to the Lodges (Branches) and Fellows-at-large attached to Headquarters.

Each General Secretary, Regional Secretary, Organizing Secretary and Presidential Representative shall make known the names of the candidates and their biographical data to the members in his area and take the votes in accordance with the instructions in Appendix B to these Rules of the individual members on the rolls of his National Society or area of administration who have been members in good standing for two full years as on the date of the call for nominations, and shall communicate the results to the

Secretary in accordance with the instructions given in Appendix B to these Rules.

The Election Committee shall take the votes in accordance with the instructions given in Appendix B of these Rules of the members of the Lodges (Branches) and Fellows-at-large attached to Headquarters who have been members in good standing for two full years as on the date of the call for nominations.

The voting results must reach the Secretary within fifteen weeks of the date of issue of the voting list by him.

If only one name remains on the voting list the vote shall be taken on a 'For' or 'Against' ballot.

(f) At the expiration of fifteen weeks from the date of issue of the voting list by the Secretary, the voting results shall be totalled by the Election Committee and placed before the Executive Committee.

Within three days of the closing date of voting, the candidate who has received the largest number of votes shall be declared elected President and shall assume office not later than thirty days thereafter.

In the event of a tie, or of the rejection of a single candidate in a 'For' or 'Against' ballot, or of a candidate on the voting list dying or being so seriously incapacitated as to be unable to carry out the Presidential duties if elected, after the despatch of the voting list and before the final totalling of votes, the nomination and election procedure shall be repeated, commencing within seven days from the notification of the fact to the Secretary, and the President in office or the Vice-President if he is temporarily filling such office, shall continue therein until a new President assumes office.

Note: A member is in good standing if his dues have been paid for the last

official year to his Section, Regional Association or Presidential Agency or in the case of Lodges (Branches) attached direct to Adyar and Fellows-at-large to the Secretary or Treasurer concerned.

11. Nomination and election of Vice-President; his duties

(a) Within three months of assuming office the President shall nominate the Vice-President subject to confirmation by the General Council. His term of office shall be at the discretion of the President but when the Vice-President has been three years in office that office shall become vacant by the passage of time and the President, within three months, shall again make a nomination and submit it to the General Council. Notwithstanding this provision the Vice-President shall remain in office and his term shall continue until a successor has been nominated and confirmed. The Vice-President in office may be renominated. It shall be his duty, among other things, to carry on the executive functions of the President in case the President is dead or where the Executive Committee finds that he is disabled by accident, serious illness or otherwise from performing the duties of the President.

(b) Notwithstanding anything herein contained the Vice-President doing the duties of the President shall continue to be the Vice-President of the Society until a new Vice-President has been nominated and his nomination confirmed by the General Council. In case of death, resignation or disability of such Vice-President doing the duties of the President, the Executive Committee shall appoint a Vice-President who shall hold office until the new President shall have nominated a new Vice-President and his nomination be confirmed by the General Council.

12. Appointment of Secretary and other officials

The Secretary and such subordinate officials as are necessary shall be appointed by the President and confirmed by a majority vote of the Executive Committee at its next meeting, the newly appointed officials not being present or voting. The Executive Committee may remove any of these appointees, by a vote of three-fourths of the whole number of its members. In this event, the President shall make a new appointment.

13. Nomination and election of Treasurer

The President shall nominate the Treasurer, following consultation with and approval by the Executive Committee and subsequent confirmation by the General Council for a period of three years. In the event of an emergency, the President may appoint an acting Treasurer with the approval of the Executive Committee until such time as the General Council can confirm a new Treasurer in accordance with the procedure laid down above. The Treasurer may be removed from office by the General Council or by a vote of three-fourths of the number of members of the Executive Committee. In such an event, the President shall nominate a new Treasurer, following consultation with and approval by the Executive Committee and subsequent confirmation by the General Council.

14. Appointment of Executive Committee

(a) The General Council shall at each Annual Meeting appoint an Executive Committee for the ensuing year or until its next Annual Meeting, of not less than seven and not more than ten members, of whom at least six shall be members of the General Council. The President, the Vice-President, the Treasurer, and the Secretary shall be *ex-officio* members.

Vacancies caused by death or resignation or otherwise may be filled by co-option.

(b) The General Council may delegate to the Executive Committee any of its powers and authority in the management of the business and affairs of the Society except:

(i) The power to amend or repeal the Rules;

(ii) The power to borrow money and incur indebtedness;

(iii) Such powers as are specifically reserved to the President.

The Executive Committee shall have such powers as are delegated to it by the General Council and as are specified in the Rules. The Executive Committee may recommend to the General Council programmes, policies or activities, but it may not initiate projects requiring major funds not within the current approved budget.

15. Meetings of Executive Committee

The Executive Committee shall meet at least once in every three months for the receipt and consideration of accounts and the despatch of any other business. A special meeting may be called by the President whenever he thinks fit, and such meeting shall be called by him, or if not by him, by the Secretary, when he is required to do so, by not fewer than three members of the Committee, who shall state to him in writing the business for which they wish the meeting to assemble.

16. Quorum of Executive Committee

At a meeting of the Executive Committee, three members shall constitute a quorum.

17. Chairman of Executive Committee

The Committee shall, in the absence of the President and Vice-President, elect a Chairman to preside over the meeting

and in case of equality of votes the Chairman for the time being shall have a casting vote.

18. President Custodian of archives; Executive Officer; power to make temporary and provisional appointments

The President shall be the custodian of all the archives and records of the Society, and shall be the Executive Officer and shall conduct and direct the business of the Society in compliance with its rules; he shall be empowered to make temporary appointments and to fill provisionally all vacancies that occur in the offices of the Society, and shall have discretionary powers in all matters not specifically provided for in these Rules.

19. Receipt of moneys

All subscriptions, donations and other moneys payable to the Association shall be received by the President, or the Treasurer, or the Secretary, the receipt of any of whom in writing shall be sufficient discharge for the same.

20. Deposits, Signatories

The securities and uninvested funds of the Society shall be deposited in the State Bank of India, Madras, or such other Bank or Banks as the Executive Committee, T.S., shall select; and in countries outside of India, in such Banks as the President shall select. Cheques drawn against the funds shall be signed by any two of the following: the President, the Treasurer, the Secretary and any other persons appointed by the President for the purpose under Rule 12.

21. Power of Attorney

(a) Notwithstanding anything in these rules to the contrary the President may, touching the assets and affairs of the Society beyond India, at any time and

from time to time by a Power of Attorney appoint any persons to be the Attorneys of the Society for such period and subject to such conditions and for such purposes and with such authorities and powers as he may think fit, and he may if necessary affix the Seal of the Society thereto.

Without prejudice to the general powers conferred as aforesaid, the President may grant power and authority among others to sell, grant mortgage, lease or otherwise transfer the assets of the Society, movable or immovable, real or personal, and to receive subscriptions, donations, legacies, moneys and other property, movable or immovable, and to institute, continue, compromise, compound or refer to arbitration any actions, suits, or other proceedings, and to take and hold shares in any company, and to vote at any meetings thereof, and to sub-delegate all or any of his powers, and to give receipts and release, and to sign, seal and deliver any instrument or document and have the same registered.

Investments

(b) The funds of the Society may be invested by the President, with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee, in Government or other Public Securities, Unit Trust of India, Term Deposits in Scheduled Banks, fixed deposits and bonds of Government of India undertakings or in the purchase of immovable property or First Mortgages in such property.

Disposal of Adyar Estate

(c) The Adyar Estate of the Society in Madras including the Society's original Headquarters and all other properties in Adyar since acquired by gift, purchase or otherwise, shall not at any time be disposed of by sale, gift, exchange, mortgage or otherwise; save that the President, if specially authorized by a

resolution of the General Council, passed by a three-fourths vote of their members, voting in person, in writing or by proxy, may dispose of such outlying portions of the said Adyar Estate, as may be specified in such Resolutions.

Transfer of investments and other property

(d) The President may, with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee, sell, mortgage or otherwise transfer any investment in Government or other Public securities, or any movable or immovable property of the Society other than those mentioned in Rule 21(c).

22. Affixing of Seal, Signatures

(a) All deeds whereby immovable properties belonging to the Society are transferred or otherwise dealt with shall have affixed to them the Seal of the Society with the signature of the President and of the Secretary. In case of the absence of the President or where the Executive Committee finds that he is by reason of disability caused by accident, illness or otherwise, unable to act, it may appoint two of its members to sign in place of the President.

Transfer of movable property

(b) All transfers of movable property, if in writing, shall bear the signature of the President and of the Secretary but need not have affixed to them the Seal of the Society. In case of the absence of the President or where the Executive Committee finds that he is by reason of disability caused by accident, illness or otherwise, unable to act, it may appoint two of its members to sign in place of the President.

Note: The procedure detailed in this Rule is without prejudice to the powers conferred under Rule 21(a).

23. President may Sue

The Society may sue and be sued in the name of the President.

24. Secretary to affix Seal

The Secretary may, with the authority of the President, or of the two substitutes appointed according to Rule 22, affix the Seal of the Society on all instruments requiring to be sealed, and all such instruments shall be signed by the President or by the two substitutes above mentioned and the Secretary.

25. Death or resignation of President

On the death or resignation of the President, the Secretary shall at once make arrangements for the election of a new President, in accordance with Rule 10, and until such new President is elected the Vice-President shall perform the duties of President.

26. Headquarters

Headquarters of the Society are established at Adyar, Madras, and are outside the jurisdiction of the Indian Section.

27. Permission to reside

The President shall have full power and discretion to permit to any person use of any premises or portion thereof in the Adyar Estate for occupation and residence, on such terms as the President may lay down, or to refuse permission so to occupy or reside. Any person occupying such premises under the permission granted by the President shall, on a fortnight's notice given by or on behalf of the President, unconditionally quit the premises before the expiry of that period. When circumstances warrant it, the fortnight's notice may be dispensed with and

the person shall quit immediately when required to do so.

28. Eligibility for membership

Every person of ten full years of age, without distinction of race, creed, sex, caste or colour, shall be eligible for membership in the Society, but those under the age of eighteen shall be admitted to membership only with the written consent of parent or guardian, and shall have no right to vote until they have reached the age of eighteen years.

29. Admission to membership

(a) Admission to membership may be obtained through the President of a Lodge (Branch), the General Secretary of a National Society or, through the Secretary; and a Diploma (Certificate) of membership shall be issued to the Fellow, bearing the signature of the President, and countersigned by the General Secretary, where the applicant resides within the territory of a National Society, or countersigned by the Secretary, if admission to membership has been obtained through the Secretary.

(b) Admission to membership shall be at the discretion of the National Society or the international Secretary, as the case may be.

Membership Date

(c) The date of membership will begin:

(i) When admission has been made through the General Secretary, Regional Secretary, Organizing Secretary, or Presidential Representative from the date of acceptance by the General Secretary, Regional Secretary, Organizing Secretary or Presidential Representative as entered by him and duly reported to the Secretary at Adyar.

(ii) When admission has been made through the Secretary, from the date of

acceptance of the application by him, and so recorded in his office.

(d) Members may not be full members of more than one Lodge (Branch) at a time, but may be accepted as Affiliated or Honorary Members of Lodges (Branches) other than the one in which they are full members. Affiliated or Honorary Members may possess such rights and privileges as are accorded to them by the Lodge (Branch) in which they hold such membership, but they shall not be founder members of new Lodges (Branches), but if a member becomes a founder member of a new Lodge (Branch), he must become a full member of such Lodge (Branch) and shall relinquish full membership in any other Lodge (Branch). Affiliated or Honorary Members are not to be counted in the international records or vote in international elections other than through the Lodges (Branch) in which they hold full membership.

(e) Without prejudice to the provisions of Rule 10, no member in good standing for less than two years shall have the right to vote in elections and other matters pertaining to Lodges, Federations, Regional Associations, National Societies or other duly constituted bodies of the Theosophical Society. In the case of newly formed Lodges (Branches), or in other special circumstances, the General Secretary, or National Council or Committee, or the international Secretary, as the case may be, shall have the power to waive the requirements of this rule.

30. Lodges and Fellows within a National Society

Lodges (Branches) and Fellows, whether unattached or attached to a Lodge (Branch), residing within the territory of a National Society, shall normally belong to

that National Society, unless coming under Rule 31.

Provided that with the consent of the General Secretaries concerned a member who belongs to one National Society may, while retaining his membership of that National Society, belong to another National Society as an Affiliated or Honorary Member, but he shall not cast a vote in matters relating to The Theosophical Society in the National Society in which he is an Affiliated or Honorary Member.

When a National Society under its own rules provides for Life Membership in that National Society, such Life Membership shall no longer be effective where a Member resides in the territory of or transfers his membership to another National Society, unless the specific approval of the General Secretaries concerned has been granted.

31. Lodges and Fellows within a National Society but attached direct to Adyar or to another National Society

(a) When an individual Fellow in good standing, for any serious and weighty reason, sufficient in the opinion of the President to justify such action, is desirous of leaving the National Society to which he belongs, but is not desirous of leaving The Theosophical Society, such individual Fellow may become directly attached to Headquarters, Adyar, severing all connection with the National Society. Such application must be made through the General Secretary of the National Society concerned who shall be under obligation duly to forward such application to the President as expeditiously as possible. This shall equally apply in the case of the admission of any new member.

(b) A Fellow of The Theosophical Society in good standing who is desirous of leaving the National Society to which

he or she belongs or ought to belong under Rule 30 and of joining another National Society, may be permitted by the President to do so provided such Fellow presents reason sufficient in the opinion of the President to justify such action, and provided further that the application for transfer is submitted with the approval of the General Secretaries of both National Societies concerned.

This rule shall apply equally in the case of the admission of a new member.

(c) When a Lodge (Branch), for any serious and weighty reason, sufficient in the opinion of the President to justify such action, is desirous of leaving the National Society to which it belongs, but is not desirous of leaving The Theosophical Society, such Lodge (Branch) may become directly attached to Headquarters, Adyar, severing all connection with the National Society. Such application must be made through the General Secretary of the National Society concerned who shall be under obligation duly to forward such application to the President as expeditiously as possible.

Before any Lodge (Branch) shall have the right to apply to be directly attached to Headquarters, Adyar, it shall have mailed to each of its members individually a notice that such application is about to be considered. Such notice must be mailed not less than two weeks before the meeting at which such consideration is to take place, and voting on the application shall be deferred until two months after that meeting. If at such first meeting, or any succeeding meeting pursuant thereto, it is decided to bring the application to a vote as herein provided, a full report of the reasons for such action shall at once be sent to the General Secretary of the National Society concerned.

Any application for separation from the National Society to which a Lodge

(Branch) belongs shall be ineffective unless two-thirds of the members of the Lodge (Branch) vote in favour thereof.

(d) In the event of any undue delay in the transmission of any application under any of the foregoing provisions of this Rule, a correct copy of such application (duly signed or otherwise authenticated) may be transmitted directly to the President by the Fellow or Lodge (Branch) concerned, and the President may act on such copy if in his absolute discretion it appears to him to be fit or proper that he should so act. Any action so taken by the President shall be as valid and effectual, for all purposes, as if it had been taken on the original application submitted for transmission to the President. The Fellow or Lodge (Branch), when forwarding such copy to the President directly, shall state the full grounds and reasons for the direct transmission.

32. Lodges and Fellows where no National Society exist

Lodges (Branches) or Fellows-at-large, in countries where no National Society exists, must apply for their Charters or Diplomas (Certificates) directly to the Secretary, and may not, without the sanction of the President, belong to National Societies within the territorial limits of which they are not situated or resident.

33. Formation of a Lodge

Any seven Fellows may apply to be chartered as a Lodge (Branch). In a country where no National Society exists the application must be forwarded to the President of the Society through the Secretary.

The Presidents, Secretaries and other Officers, including Committee Members, of Lodges (Branches) shall have been members in good standing for not less than

two consecutive years immediately prior to their election. In the case of newly formed Lodges (Branches), or in other special circumstances, the General Secretary or National Council or Committee, or the international Secretary, as the case may be, shall have the power to waive the requirements of this rule.

Three or more members, but less than seven, may apply for certification as an Official Study Centre, but such Official Study Centres shall not be considered as units to be counted in application for the formation of a National Society.

34. President grants, refuses Charters

The President shall have authority to grant or refuse applications for Charters, which if issued, must bear his signature and that of the Secretary, and the Seal of the Society, and be recorded at the Headquarters of the Society.

35. Formation of a National Society

(a) A National Society may be formed by the President, upon the application of seven or more chartered Lodges (Branches) consisting of at least 70 members of the Society in good standing.

Formation of a Section

(b) Upon the application of seven or more chartered Lodges (Branches) in areas which are territorially adjacent and in which there are not sufficient Lodges (Branches) for each national group to form a National Society, the President shall have authority at his discretion to issue (and to cancel) a Charter constituting such Lodges (Branches) into a Section. The Charter shall confer the same powers as one issued to a National Society. In all respects the rules applying to National Societies shall apply to any group of Lodges (Branches) holding a Charter under this rule.

Formation of a Regional Association

(c) The President shall have authority at his discretion to issue (and to cancel) a certificate of Regional Association to any national or territorially adjacent group of Lodges (Branches) not sufficient in number or otherwise unable to form or to maintain a National Society, as defined in these Rules, or where in his judgement territorial division or other causes have made such Regional Association necessary or desirable. Any such Regional Association may elect an Organizing Secretary or other executive officer or officers for the purpose of further organization and the transaction of business.

A Regional Association shall not appoint a General Secretary (as the term is used in these Rules) nor be represented on the General Council. In all other respects the Rules applicable to National Societies and to General Secretaries shall apply to Regional Associations and to their chief executives.

Appointment of Presidential Representatives

(d) The President shall have authority at his discretion to appoint and to withdraw appointments of Presidential Representatives to act under his instructions for the purposes of conducting the business and administration of the Society in any place and in any respect not inconsistent with these Rules. Each such appointment and the power delegated to each such Representative shall be evidenced by a Letter of Appointment referring to this Rule.

36. Authority of Charters and Diplomas

(a) All Charters of National Societies or Lodges (Branches) and all Diplomas (Certificates) of membership derive their authority from the President, acting as Executive Officer of the General Council of the Society, and may be cancelled by the same authority.

(b) Without prejudice to the provisions of sub-rule (a), a National Society, Section or Regional Association may cancel the Charter of a Lodge (Branch) within its area. This power shall be exercised by the Governing Body or Committee which is responsible, according to the constitution, rules and regulations of the National Society, Section or Regional Association, for the management of the business and affairs of the National Section or Regional Association.

(c) The Lodge (Branch) may appeal to the President against the cancellation of its Charter under sub-rule (b) within a period of three months from the date of receipt of the order of cancellation of the Charter, and the President may either uphold or quash the order of cancellation. The decision of the President shall be deemed to be effective from the date of the order of cancellation of the Charter by the National Society, Section or Regional Association.

Provided that if the President does not pass an order on the appeal within a period of nine months from the date of receipt of the appeal, the cancellation of the Charter shall be deemed to have been upheld.

Minimum number of members for National Society

(d) If at any time the number of members in good standing of a National Society falls below seventy and the number of Lodges (Branches) falls below five, the President may, at his discretion withdraw its Charter.

In the event of the Charter not being withdrawn, the General Secretary of the Section concerned shall cease to have voting rights as a member of the General Council until the necessary numerical strength is recovered.

37. Rules of Lodges and National Societies

Each Lodge (Branch) and National Society shall have the power to make its own Rules which shall not be incompatible with the Rules of the National Society to which the Lodge (Branch) belongs or with the Rules of The Theosophical Society.

All Rules of Lodges (Branches) and National Societies and amendments thereto shall be submitted for approval within thirty days of their adoption as follows:

(a) In the case of a Lodge (Branch) belonging to a National Society, all such Rules and amendments shall be submitted to the General Secretary of that National Society, and shall be put into force if approval has not been refused within ninety days of acknowledgement of their receipt by the General Secretary of the National Society.

(b) In the case of a National Society, or of a Lodge (Branch) not situated within the territory of a National Society, or of a Lodge directly attached to Adyar under Rule 31(c) all such Rules or amendments thereto shall be submitted directly to the international President, and shall be put into force if approval has not been refused within nine months of acknowledgement of their receipt.

All Rules and amendments shall be put into force if approval has not been refused within ninety days of acknowledgement of their receipt.

If by a change made in a Rule of The Theosophical Society, any Rule of a National Society, which at its inception was not incompatible with the Rules of The Theosophical Society, ceases to be compatible, such a Rule of the National Society shall cease to be valid and shall be amended so as to be in consonance with the Rules of The Theosophical Society.

If by a change made in a Rule of a National Society, any Rule of a Lodge (Branch) which at its inception was not incompatible with the Rules of the National Society, ceases to be compatible, such a Rule of the Lodge (Branch) shall cease to be valid and shall be amended so as to be in consonance with the Rules of the National Society.

38. General Secretary

(a) Every National Society shall elect a General Secretary, who shall be the channel of official communication between the General Council and the National Society.

(b) The General Secretary shall be elected according to the procedure laid down in the rules and regulations of the National Society for a term not exceeding three years. He shall, however, be eligible for re-election for a further term or terms, if the rules of the National Society permit it.

(c) The General Secretary shall generally reside within the area of the National Society and shall not be absent from the area for any period or periods exceeding the limit prescribed by the National Society.

(d) General Secretaries, Regional Secretaries, Organizing Secretaries and other Officers, including Committee Members of National Societies and Regional Associations, shall have been members in good standing for not less than three consecutive years immediately prior to their election to the office concerned. Provided that in special circumstances, the National Council or Committee shall have power to waive the requirements of this rule.

39. Annual Report

(c) The General Secretary of each National Society, the Regional Secretaries,

Presidential Representatives and Secretaries of Lodges directly attached to Adyar shall forward to the President, annually, not later than the first day of November, a report of the year's work, along with an audited financial statement of accounts with an English translation where necessary; and at any time furnish any further information the President or the General Council may desire.

40. National Societies known as Sections

National Societies hitherto known as Sections which have been incorporated under the name of 'The Section of The T.S.' before the year 1908, may retain that name in their respective countries, in order not to interfere with the incorporation already existing, but shall be included under the name of National Societies for all purposes in these Rules and Regulations.

41. Fees and Subscriptions

The President, Secretary and Treasurer shall together have the power to fix or vary fees and charges payable to the General Treasury by Lodges (Branches) not comprised within the limits of any National Society; for Charters of such Lodges (Branches); of Diplomas (Certificates) of Membership and for Annual subscription of Fellows of such Lodges (Branches); and in the case of Lodges (Branches) comprised within the jurisdiction of a National Society, Regional Association, or Presidential Agency for Charters when printed at or supplied by the Adyar Headquarters. The Secretary should inform the General Council within three months of any changes in fees and charges. The Annual Subscription of Fellows other than Fellows-at-large or members of Lodges (Branches) attached directly to Adyar shall be the amount prescribed for Annual Subscription by the

by-laws or other regulations of the National Society to which such Fellows are attached, or equivalents.

42. Fellows-at-large: Fees and Subscriptions

Fellows-at-large resident within the territory of a National Society under the Provision of Rule 31 (a) shall pay to the General Treasury as Entrance Fee and as Annual Subscription the amounts prescribed by the bylaws or other regulations of such National Society, but not less than the fee and subscription fixed for a Fellow-at-large not resident within the territory of a National Society.

Fellows-at-large not resident within the territory of a National Society, shall pay such Entrance Fee, Diploma Fee and Annual Subscription as shall be fixed by the President, Secretary, and Treasurer. The Secretary shall inform the General Council of any changes in such fees within three months of their being made.

43. National Societies: Fees to Adyar

(a) Each National Society shall pay into the General Treasury fifteen per cent of the total amount of fees payable by members to the Section and shall remit the same to the Treasurer at Adyar on or before the first day of March of the current year, and the financial year of the Society shall close on 31st March.

Presidential Agencies: Dues

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of Rule 41(a) and Rule 42, the President at his discretion may authorize Presidential Representatives to collect dues in territories to which they have been appointed and to remit in accordance with Rule 43(a).

44. Cancellation of Charter or dissolution of National Society or Lodge

In the event of the cancellation of

any Charter under Rule 36, or the dissolution of any National Society or of a Lodge (Branch), the constituent Charter of the National Society or of the Lodge (Branch), granted by the President, shall *ipso facto* become forfeited or lapsed, and all property, real or personal, including Charters, Diplomas (Certificates), Seal, Records and other papers belonging to or in the custody of such National Society or Lodge (Branch) shall vest as follows:

Vesting of property of National Society or Lodge

(a) in the Society, in the case of a National Society or of a Lodge (Branch) not within the territory of a National Society or of a Lodge (Branch) coming under Rule 31(c) (except) where the law of the country where the National Society or Lodge (Branch) is situated prohibits such vesting, in which case the property shall vest (as hereinafter provided) and delivery shall be made to the President, or to his nominee on his behalf.

(b) in the National Society in which the Lodge (Branch) is situated, in the case of a Lodge (Branch) within the territory of a National Society, said Lodge (Branch) not coming under Rule 31(c), and delivery shall be made to the General Secretary of the said National Society.

No National Society or Lodge (Branch) whose Charter shall have become forfeited or lapsed shall continue to use the name, motto, or seal of the Society except for the purpose of vesting in the Society or in the National Society, as the case may be, the real and personal property of such National Society or Lodge (Branch).

Revival or transfer of Charter

(c) Provided, nevertheless, that the President shall have power to revive the Charter

of the National Society or the Lodge (Branch), as the case may be whose Charter shall have become so forfeited or lapsed, and to transfer the said Charter to other Lodges (Branches) being not fewer than seven in number, or to other Fellows being not less than seven in number, as the case may be, or to such other nominees of his as in his judgement shall seem best for the interest of the Society.

Provided further that in cases in which the Charter of a Lodge (Branch) had been cancelled by a National Society, Section or Regional Association under sub-rule (b) of Rule 36 and, on an appeal under sub-rule (c) of that Rule, the President quashes the order of cancellation, all property of the Lodge (Branch) shall again vest in the Lodge (Branch), and shall be deemed to have remained so vested from the date of the order of cancellation of the Charter by the National Society, Section or Regional Association.

In cases under (a) above, where such vesting in the Society is prohibited by the law of the country in which is situated the National Society or the Lodge (Branch) whose Charter has become forfeited or lapsed as aforesaid, the property shall vest in a local Trustee or Trustees appointed by the President.

To effect any transfer of property, to which the Society may become entitled under this Rule, it shall be lawful for the President to appoint an agent or nominee for the purpose of executing any necessary document or documents, or for taking any steps necessary effectually to transfer the said property to the Society.

45. Financial accounts

The financial accounts of the Society shall be audited annually by qualified Auditors who shall be appointed by the General Council at each Annual Meeting for the ensuing year.

46. Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting or Convention of the Society shall be held at such time and in such place as shall be determined by the Executive Committee in June of each year, but such Annual General Meeting or Convention must be held within nine months of the close of the Society's year and may be held outside India not more than once in every three years. National Societies desirous of inviting the Convention and able to make due arrangements for its accommodation, shall send the invitation at least twelve months prior to the Convention with particulars of the arrangements they propose to make.

47. World Congress

Not more than once in every seven years a World Congress of The Theosophical Society may be held at a place and date to be fixed by the General Council, but so as not to interfere with the Annual Convention.

48. Special meetings

The President shall have the power to convene special meetings of the Society at his discretion.

49. Changes in Rules and Regulations

The General Council, of their own motion or on the motion of the Executive Committee and after at least three months' notice has been given to each member of said Council, may, by a three-fourths vote of those members who vote in person, in writing, or by proxy, make, alter or repeal the Rules and Regulations of the Society, in such manner as it may deem expedient.

50. Bylaws

The General Council may frame by-laws not inconsistent with these Rules and Regulations and may add to, alter, or repeal such bylaws, consistently with the said Rules and Regulations, as it may deem expedient.

APPENDIX

A: Biographical Data of Presidential Candidates

Each candidate shall submit to the Secretary biographical data not exceeding two hundred words.

The following information shall be included: (a) date and place of birth (b) education (c) past and present occupations (d) date of joining The Theosophical Society (e) work done for The Theosophical Society.

Other information may be included but must be factual and shall not contain statements of opinion or policy.

The biographical data for circulation shall be drawn up by the Election Committee on the basis of the information supplied by the candidates, and shall be approved by the Executive Committee (excluding any candidates for election) before being issued.

B: Voting Procedure for a Presidential Election

Note: Where the term 'General Secretary' is used, it refers also to Regional Secretary, Organizing Secretary, and Presidential Representative. Where the term 'Section' is used, it refers also to National Society, Regional Association and Presidential Agency.

(a) The Section shall print the voting papers and biographical data as soon as the names of the nominees are announced.

Where practicable, in the view of the General Secretary, all the papers should be in the language(s) of the area.

It shall be the responsibility of the General Secretary, to ensure that the voting papers together with the biographical data in full are sent to each member.

Other material concerning the candidates shall not be circulated.

(b) The voting papers shall consist of two parts: the voting slip, and the letter form which the member signs and addresses to the General Secretary.

Each member shall be given two envelopes, a small one in which he will place only the voting slip and seal it, and a larger one addressed to the General Secretary, in which he will enclose the small sealed envelope and the letter form signed by him.

(c) As the papers are received, the General Secretary, with the scrutineers appointed by the Executive Committee of the Section (preferably not members of that committee), shall open the larger envelopes addressed to him to ensure the validity of the votes by checking the eligibility of the voter who has signed the letter form.

He shall then put the small sealed envelopes containing the voting slips into a sealed box.

This box shall be opened on the appointed day by the scrutineers. Voting papers received after this date shall be treated as invalid and shall be destroyed unopened.

The scrutineers shall open the small envelopes and count the votes given to each candidate (or the number of 'For' or 'Against' votes if there is but one candidate).

(d) The General Secretary shall record the result of the count on Form C which will be supplied from the Secretary's Office at the same time as the list to be voted upon.

He shall place Form C in the small

envelope labelled 'Voting Result. . . . Section', seal the envelope and enclose it in the larger envelope addressed to the Secretary.

This must be sent by airmail or other expeditious means to reach the Secretary within fifteen weeks from the date of issue of the voting list by him.

(e) The small envelope containing the voting results of the Section shall be kept unopened in a sealed box by the Secretary until the close of voting.

It shall then be opened by the Election Committee.

The larger envelope shall be kept separately and shall not be destroyed until after the voting results are announced, and under the authority of the Executive Committee.

(f) If the voting returns have not been received by the Secretary within twelve weeks of the date of issue of the voting

list by him, he shall cable the General Secretary concerned, informing him of this fact.

The General Secretary shall immediately send to the Secretary by airmail or other expeditious means a second (duplicate) voting return in a sealed envelope marked 'Duplicate'.

Cabled results will not be accepted.

Voting results received after the closing date will be destroyed unopened by the Secretary in the presence of three members of the Executive Committee, nominated by the said Committee, and the particulars of the Section from which the voting results were received and the date on which they were received, shall be recorded in writing, and the Secretary and the three members of the Executive Committee shall affix their signatures thereto.

DIRECTORY 1991

Ex-Officio Members of the General Council

President: MRS RADHA BURNIER

Vice-President: MR SURENDRA NARAYAN

Secretary: DR HUGH GRAY

Treasurer: MR A. SABRY

National Societies, Regional Associations and Presidential Agencies

Date of Formation	Name of Section	General Secretary	Address
1947	Africa, East and Central	... Mr Kiran H. Shah	... 55A Third Avenue Parklands, P.O. Box 48507, Nairobi, Kenya
1909	Africa, South	... Mr Arthur Bunton	... P.O. Box 22023, Kloofsig, 0034
1956	Africa, West	... Mr P.B. Kwakyi	... P.O. Box 720, Accra, Ghana
1929	America, Central	... Mr Ernesto Aguilar Castro	... P.O. Box 1595, San Salvador, El Salvador
1920	Argentina	... Mrs Nora Spairani	... Pje. Florencio Balcarce 71, 1405 Buenos Aires
1990	Asia, South-East †	... Mr K. K. Tan	... 315 Outram Road, No. 14-03 Tan Boon Liat Bldg, Singapore 0316
1895	Australia	... Miss Dianne Kay Kynaston	... 4th Flr., 484 Kent St., Sydney, N.S.W. 2000
1912	Austria	... Mrs Margaret Lauppert	... Postfach 655, A—8011, Graz
1911	Belgium	... Dr H. van der Hecht	... 166 Rue de la Cambre, 1200 Brussels
1965	Bolivia †	... Mr Mario Cariaga Aramayo	... Casilla 2083, La Paz
1920	Brazil	... Mr Ulisses Riedel de Resende	... Sociedade Teosofica no Brazil, SGAS—Quadra 603, No. 20 CEP 70.200 Brazillia (DF)
1919	Canada	... Mr Stan Treloar	... R.R. No. 3, Burk's Falls, Ont. POA 1C0
1924	Canada Federation*	... Mr George H. Duguay	... 28, Hartnell Sq., Brampton, Ontario, Canada L6S 5W9
1920	Chile	... Mr Mauricio Froimovich	... Casilla 3603, Santiago
1937	Colombia	... Mr Gabriel Burgos S.	... Carrera 6A, No. 56-40, Bogota
1905	Cuba	... Dr Luis Manuel Celema Delgado	... P.O. Box 6365, Havana
1918	Denmark †	... Mr Uffe Vilstrup	... Lars Nielsens Vej 13, DK-2970 Horsholm
1888	England	... Miss Ianthe H. Hoskins	... 50 Gloucester Place, London W1H 3HJ
1907	Finland	... Mrs Kirsti Elo	... Vironkatu 7c2, 00170, Helsinki 17
1899	France	... Mrs Françoise Caracostea	... 4 Square Rapp, 75007 Paris
1902	Germany	... Mrs Eva Maas	... Friedrich-Ebert-Anlage 9, W-6450 Hanau/M. 1
1928	Greece	... Mr P. Adjakas	... 25, Voukourestiou Street, 106 71-Athens
1921	Iceland	... Mr Einar Adalsteinsson	... Ingolfsstraeti 22, Reykjavik

1891	India	...	Dr C. V. Agarwal	...	The Theosophical Society, Varanasi 221 010
1912	Indonesia	...	Mr H.M. Soesiswo	...	Jalan Oto Iskandardinata III/G. 336, Jatinegara, Jakarta 13340, Timur
1949	Ireland, Northern*	...	Mrs Marie Henry	...	30 Hillsborough Drive Off Woodstock Road Belfast BT 69 DS
1919	Ireland, Rep. of †	...	Mrs W. Woods	...	31 Pembroke Road, Dublin 4
1902	Italy	...	Mr Edoardo Bratina	...	via E. Toti 3, Post Box 1252 34131 Trieste
1919	Mexico	...	Carlos Lopez Cerdan Ripoll	...	Ignacio Mariscal 26 Col. Tabacalera C. P. 06470 Mexico D.F.
1912	Myanmar	...	U Tin Hlaing	...	No. 102, 49th Street, East Yangon
1897	Netherlands	...	Dr W. H. van Vledder	...	Tolstraat 154, 1074 VM Amsterdam
1896	New Zealand	...	Mr W.W. Johnstone	...	18 Belvedere Street, Epsom, Auckland 3
1913	Norway	...	Ms Marianne Chen	...	PO Box 2889 Toyen N-0608 Oslo 6
1948	Pakistan †	...	Mrs Gool K. Minwalla	...	'Q' House, 2nd Floor, 2 Framroze Road, Bath Island, Karachi 0402
1924	Peru †	...	Mr Julio Gerardo Pomar	...	Jr. Republica de Portugal 152, Brena, Lima
1933	Philippines, The	...	Mr Vicente Haó Chin Jr	...	Corner P. Florentino and Iba Streets, Quezon City
1921	Portugal	...	Dr Maria G. Nobre Santos	...	Campo Martires da Pátria 69, r/c- Dto., Lisbon 1
1925	Puerto Rico	...	Mr Aramis Lopez	...	G.P.O. Box 1766, San Juan, 00931
1910	Scotland †	...	Mrs Margaret T. Senior	...	12 Granary Park, Rafford, by Forres, Morayshire, IV 36 OJZ
1921	Spain	...	Dr Angel Rubio	...	Pau Claris 77, 3 ^o , 1 ^a , 08010 Barcelona
1926	Sri Lanka	...	Mr Edmund P. Silva	...	49 Peterson Lane, Colombo 6
1895	Sweden	...	Mrs Ing-Britt Wiklund	...	Kalle Posts vag 48, S-702 29 Orebro
1910	Switzerland	...	Mme Eliane Gaillard	...	17 Ch de la Côte, CH-1282 Dardagny, Genève
1886	United States of America	...	Mrs Dorothy Abbenhouse	...	P.O. Box 270, Wheaton, Illinois 60189-0270
1925	Uruguay	...	Mrs Dolores Gago de Fuerte	...	Casilla de Correos 1553, Montevideo
1953	Venezuela	...	Mrs Maria A. Bonilla	...	Apartado 2907, Caracas
1922	Wales	...	Mr R. M. Peters	...	17 Duffryn Avenue, Lakeside, Cardiff CF2 6LE
1925	Yugoslavia	...	Mr Anton Jesse	...	Kremzarjeva 18, 61000 Ljubljana

**The Council of the European Federation
of National Societies:**

Chairman: Mr Curt Berg, Sparrisbacken 63,
S-162 37, Vallingby, Sweden

Inter-American Theosophical Federation: *President:* Mr Ulises Riedel de Resende, Sociedade Teosofica
no Brasil, SGAS—Quadra 603, No. 20,
CEP 70.200, Brasilia (DF)

Indo-Pacific Theosophical Federation: *President:* Mr S. Narayanan, 6, Jalan Tinggi (6/12), 46000
Petaling Jaya, Malaysia

World Theosophical Youth Federation: *Secretary:* Mrs Marina V. Lenz Cesar Caixa Postal 10360,
Porto Alegre, 90000 Brazil

* Regional Association

† Presidential Agency

Additional Members of the General Council

- MRS GOOL K. MINWALLA, 'Q' House, 2nd Floor, 2 Framroze Road, Bath Island, Karachi 4, Pakistan (for 1989, 1990 and 1991)
- DR HUGH SHEARMAN, 36, Cliftonville Road, Belfast BT 146 JY, Northern Ireland (for 1990, 1991 and 1992)
- MRS EMILY SELLON, 949, Forest Ave., Rye, N.Y., U.S.A. (for 1990, 1991 and 1992)
- MISS JOY MILLS, Krotona 22, Ojai, California 93023 U.S.A. (for 1989, 1990 and 1991)
- MRS NORMA Y. SASTRY, The Theosophical Society, Adyar, Madras 600 020, India (for 1988, 1989 and 1990)
- MRS BARBRO MELANDER, Beleshogsv 15, S-21618 Malmö, Sweden (for 1989, 1990 and 1991)
- MR S.S. VARMA, B-6/8 Vasant Vihar, New Delhi 110 057, India (for 1990, 1991 and 1992)
- MR WALTER BALLESTEROS, Carrera 6, No. 56-40 Bogotá-2, Colombia (for 1989, 1990 and 1991)
- MR CURT BERG, Sparrisbacken 63, S-162 37 Vällingby Sweden (for 1990, 1991 and 1992)

MINUTES

Of the Meeting of the General Council of the Theosophical Society held on Tuesday, 25 December 1990 at Varanasi

PRESENT

Mrs Radha Burnier	<i>President (in the chair) and proxy for Brazil, the Philippines, Cuba, USA and Spain</i>
Mr Surendra Narayan	<i>Vice-President and proxy for Germany, Sweden, Curt Berg, Joy Mills and Ianthe Hoskins</i>
Dr Hugh Gray	<i>Secretary and proxy for Yugoslavia and Italy</i>
Mr S. S. Varma	<i>Treasurer and proxy for Argentina, South Africa Norma Sastry and Barbro Melander</i>
Dr C. V. Agarwal	<i>General Secretary, India, and proxy for Belgium and Walter Ballesteros</i>
Miss Dianne Kynaston	<i>General Secretary, Australia</i>
Dr W. H. van Vledder	<i>General Secretary, Holland</i>
Mr Carlos L. C. Ripoll	<i>General Secretary, Mexico, and proxy for Colombia</i>
Mrs Françoise Caracostea	<i>General Secretary, France, and proxy for Switzerland</i>
Mr Kiran H. Shah	<i>General Secretary, East and Central Africa</i>

Present by invitation as Observers

Mr Ricardo Lindemann, Brazil
Miss Marja Artamaa, Finland
Dr Josica Kosir, Yugoslavia

The President welcomed those present and read the list of Proxies.

1. Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the meetings of the General Council held at Adyar on 25 December 1989 and 1 January 1990, having been previously circulated, were confirmed and signed.

2. Matters arising out of the minutes

(a) *World Congress*

The President reported that she had received a letter from Costa Rica expressing their regret that they are not in a position to organize a World Congress, but an invitation has come from the General Secretary of the Brazilian Section to hold the World Congress in the capital, Brasilia. The Council decided to hold the World Congress in Brasilia in 1993.

(b) *Denmark*

The President reported that the high court in Denmark had given a judgement against the TS on the ground that the Danish Section was not a part of the international Society. An appeal has been made against this judgement.

Members of the Council had received a letter circulated by the former General Secretary, Mr Hardy Bennis, after the decision of the court. They advised that a letter giving correct information should be sent to the Council members by Mr Curt Berg, Chairman of the European Federation.

In this connection, the President read a letter received from Mr S. Treloar, General Secretary of the Canadian Section, alleging that the action taken in regard to the Danish Section was undemocratic and interfering. The Council unanimously reiterated its approval of the action taken by the President and Executive Committee in consultation with the officers of the European Federation, and held that there was nothing undemocratic or objectionable in the procedure or action.

(c) *Theosophy-Science*

It was reported that a decision had been made to terminate publication of the quarterly journal and bring out a publication about once in a year. The Theosophy-Science Group will also try to organize seminars and other programmes.

3. Confirmation of Voting(a) *Amendment to Rules and Regulations*

The following amendment to Rule 5(a) had been circulated for voting (changes in italics):

On the request of any member of the General Council any resolution or other item of business proposed by such member shall be placed on the agenda, and circulated with brief supporting statements, for consideration at the next meeting of the General Council, provided not less than *three months' notice* of such resolution or item of business shall be given to the Secretary.

The voting was:

<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>	<i>Abstained</i>	<i>Invalid</i>	<i>Total</i>
31	—	—	2	33

Having received the required number of votes, the amendment was declared adopted.

(b) *Election of Mrs Norma Sastry as an Additional Member of the General Council for the years 1991, 1992 and 1993.*

The voting was:

<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>	<i>Abstained</i>	<i>Invalid</i>	<i>Total</i>
32	—	—	1	33

Mrs Norma Y. Sastry was declared elected as an Additional Member for the years 1991, 1992 and 1993.

4. Report of the Non-English Publications Fund Committee for the year ending 30 September 1990

The report for the year was presented by the Vice-President, Mr Surendra Narayan. The Council accepted the Vice-President's proposal to sanction U.S. \$15,000 for printing 5,000 copies of the Russian translation of *The Secret Doctrine* for free distribution in the USSR.

It was suggested that on the cover of all editions of *The Secret Doctrine* the subtitle 'Synthesis of Religion, Philosophy and Science' should be printed; also that a few smaller books like *The Ancient Wisdom* of Annie Besant should be published in Russian by TPH Adyar.

5. Report of the International Finance Committee for the year ending 30 September 1990

The Vice-President, Mr Surendra Narayan, presented the report of the International Finance Committee for the year ending 30 September 1990.

6. Report of the Executive Committee for the year ending 30 September 1990

Salient points from the Executive Committee's minutes were received. The following were appointed as members of the Committee for 1991:

Mrs Radha Burnier	President (ex-officio)
Mr Surendra Narayan	Vice-President "
Dr Hugh Gray	Secretary "
	Treasurer "
Mrs Norma Y. Sastry	General Council Member
Mr S. S. Varma	" " "
Mr K. Visvanathan	
Mr R. Gopalaratnam	
Mr Ch. Sankar Rao	
Mr D. K. Govindaraj	

7. Treasurer's Report and Accounts for the year ending 31 March 1990

The Treasurer, Mr S. S. Varma, presented his report and accounts for the period ending 31 March 1990, which had been previously circulated. After discussion the report and accounts were adopted unanimously.

8. Budget for the year ending 31 March 1992

The budget for the year ending 31 March 1992, circulated previously, was adopted unanimously.

9. Auditors for the year ending 31 March 1992

Messrs Fraser and Ross were appointed as auditors for the year ending 31.3.1992 on the same terms and conditions as before.

The Council meeting was adjourned to 31 December 1990 at 10.30 a.m.

MINUTES

Of the Adjourned Meeting of the General Council of the Theosophical Society held at Varanasi on 31 December 1990 at 10.30 a.m.

PRESENT

All the Council members present at the meeting held on 25 December 1990 with the exception of Dr Hugh Gray and addition of Mr Vicente Hao Chin, Jr., General Secretary for the Philippines.

Any other business

(a) *International HPB Year*

There was a discussion on the above and it was unanimously decided that the Centenary of HPB's passing should be suitably commemorated in all the Sections during 1991. A common press release should be prepared and circulated to all the Sections for use in whatever way possible. It was decided that coordination should be done by correspondence as it is not practical to have an International Committee to organize this work. Members desired that notification about any function arranged in Russia should be sent well on time to all the General Secretaries. Several projects are afoot to make a film or video film on HPB. Availability of copies of such a film should also be notified to all Sections. The General Secretary for France mentioned that a good lecture on HPB (both in English and French) illustrated with slides was prepared by Mr and Mrs Michel Chapotin, and this could be publicized.

The President reported that the 1991 Convention will be held at Adyar and will highlight HPB's teaching, and there will be an exhibition about her. Information has been received that a large group of European members will be coming to Adyar at that time. It was suggested that the rates for the Convention should be notified early.

(b) *Guidelines for Educational Work*

Mr Hao Chin, General Secretary for the Philippines, spoke about the necessity for undertaking theosophical education work. He proposed that there should be an international panel of educationist members to give advice and draw up guidelines on education which could be used by any Section or Lodge. It was also mentioned that educational centres could be established to provide a theosophical background to students outside the school. The importance of including schools and colleges in lecture programmes was stressed.

(c) *Theosophical Order of Service*

Mr Hao Chin also proposed that a Newsletter about TOS work should be sent to all the Sections and TOS groups in order to have better communication between TOS

groups, and also to encourage such work. The President mentioned that a Newsletter had been occasionally brought out from Adyar, but without the cooperation of those who do TOS work, it becomes impossible to produce the Newsletter. She urged that National Directors of the TOS and General Secretaries should make a point of sending information to incorporate in the Newsletter.

(d) *Mahatma Letters*

Mr Hao Chin said that the Philippine Section proposes to bring out a chronologically arranged edition of the Mahatma Letters with the historical comments of Virginia Hanson and other relevant material. The Council was of the view that this would be useful.

(e) *Magazines for the Public*

Mr Hao Chin was of the view that the Sections need to bring out magazines for the public on the lines of *The Theosophical Digest* published by the Philippine Section and *The Quest* by the American Section. It was pointed out that there should not be repetition and that it would be better to promote the existing magazines everywhere rather than bring out similar ones in each Section. Magazines to deepen the understanding of members are equally important.

(f) *Offer to build a Hall at Adyar*

The President mentioned the offer of the Ramalinga Swamy association at Madras to build a Hall of Brotherhood and Compassion in the Adyar campus and hand it over to the Society without any conditions. The Council rejected the offer.

work, and also to encourage such work. The President mentioned that a Newsletter had been occasionally brought out from Abyss, but without the cooperation of those who do this work, it becomes impossible to produce the Newsletter. She urged that National Directors of the TOS and General Secretaries should make a point of sending information to cooperate in the Newsletter.

By: Mr. H. C. Lister

Mr. H. C. Lister said that the Fellowship Section proposes to bring out a chronologically arranged edition of the Manuscript Letters with the historical comments of Virginia Lister and other relevant material. The Council was of the view that this would be

W.D.

By: Mr. H. C. Lister

Mr. H. C. Lister was of the view that the Section need to bring out material for the public on the lines of the Theological Library published by the Fellowship Section and the Library of the American Section. It was pointed out that there should not be repetition and that it would be better to produce the existing material everywhere rather than being over-represented in such Section. Mr. Lister suggested to discuss the matter with the Fellowship Section and the American Section.

Mr. H. C. Lister said that the Fellowship Section had been asked to bring out a book of hymns and songs for the Fellowship Section. The Council was of the view that this would be a good idea and that it would be better to produce the existing material everywhere rather than being over-represented in such Section. Mr. Lister suggested to discuss the matter with the Fellowship Section and the American Section.

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